

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

8650

SEE 865.002/204 FOR #1792

FROM Italy (Kirk) DATED July 20, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127

REGARDING:

Italian Ministry of Colonies. Translation of decree transmitted
providing for reorganization of -.

re

55D.01/158

158



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

London, July 29, 1936.

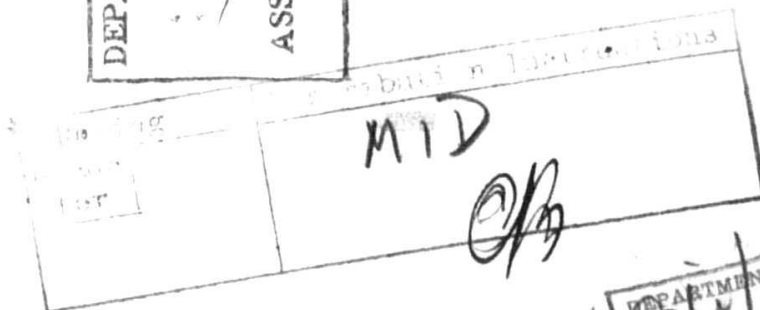
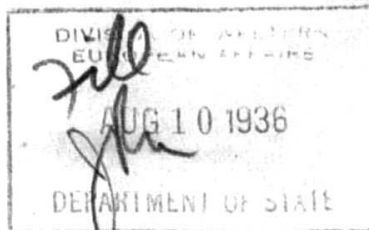
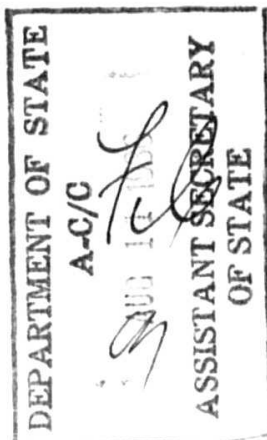
No. 2401

SUBJECT: Conditions in Western Abyssinia.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS



AUG 12 1936



The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

384.11/177

With reference to the Embassy's telegram No. 353, July 18, 2 p.m., regarding the conditions in Western Ethiopia, I have the honor to transcribe below from HANSARD a question in the House of Commons on July 27th, on the subject, and Mr. Eden's answer:

"MR. SMITH asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether a native government or governments now function in all or part of South-Western Abyssinia; whether order is being maintained in that region; whether, in order to preserve peace and order in the Anglo-Egyptian

Sudan, /

865D.01/159

AUG 19 1936

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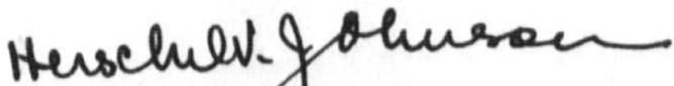
GRC

Sudan, steps will be taken to assist such native governments; and what response has been made to any recent requests from such governments for assistance in money or ammunition from His Majesty's Government or the Government of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan?

"MR. EDEN: As I informed the hon. Member for Wolverhampton, East (Mr. Mander) on 22nd June last, the few Amhara officials remaining in Western Abyssinia to-day are not in a position, owing to the hostility of the Galla population, to exercise any authority. Reports have recently been received from His Majesty's Consul at Gore that very disturbed conditions continue to prevail in his district. Communications between Gore and the interior are extremely uncertain, and the road between Gore and Gambeila is also unsafe. There are at present in the unoccupied portions of Abyssinia, including the Gore consular district, many independent bands of Amhara soldiery living on the country, who are in frequent conflict with the local tribes. As there are a number of foreign missionaries and traders and various isolated settlers in the unoccupied portions of Western Abyssinia, His Majesty's Consul at Gore has been authorised at his discretion to take such steps as may be possible to facilitate their evacuation; and a number of persons have succeeded in reaching Gore and Gambeila. As regards the last part of the question, I cannot add anything to the statements which have been previously made on this subject. I should like to take the opportunity of making it clear to the House that there is no foundation whatever for allegations which have been made in certain quarters that His Majesty's Consul at Gore has been engaged in political activities. On the contrary, Captain Erskine's sole concern has been to endeavour to maintain order and ensure the safety of foreigners in his district. His work in this respect has been of the utmost value."

Respectfully yours,

For the Ambassador:



Herschel V. Johnson
First Secretary of Embassy.

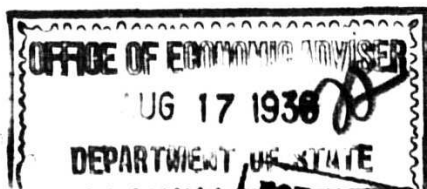


EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ROME, July 30, 1936.

No. 1812

Subject: Germany's Tacit Recognition of Italian
Sovereignty over Ethiopia.



FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK

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Copy to Legation Addis Ababa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1936 AUG 11 PM 3 52

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

With reference to my telegrams Nos. 289 and 292 of
July 25th and 298 of July 27th, I have the honor to inform
the Department that the following official communiqué of
July 25th announced Germany's decision regarding the Lega-
tion in Addis Ababa:

"Count Ciano has received the German
Ambassador, H. E. von Hassel, who com-
municated to him the decision of the
Government of the Reich to suppress the
German Legation at Addis Ababa, replacing
it by a Consulate General.

"Count Ciano noted with gratification
and thanked H. E. von Hassel for the com-
munication given him."

Comment on the communiqué emphasized the point of view
that Germany's gesture manifested an attitude of cordiality
toward Italy and, even more, a realistic and frank stand by
the

Copy transmitted by the
Commercial Office (A-O/O)

Addis Ababa
8/13/36

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AUG 18 1936

365D.01/160

the Reich on a question which was causing diplomatic difficulties to other countries. As the government spokesman implied (telegram No. 292 of July 25th), the fiction maintained by the various governments toward the status of Ethiopia was irritating even if unimportant. Signor Gayda also took the stand that certain other governments were still attempting to use the question of recognition of Italian sovereignty for their "mediocre bargainings" as well as a pretext for anti-Italian manoeuvres, and declared that such attempts were destined to futility. He pointed out the German step as the easiest way to settle the question of recognition without need of "diplomatic contortions and useless controversies."

Much emphasis was laid, and particularly by the government spokesman, upon the cordial state of relations between Italy and Germany. Signor Gayda, after pointing to Germany's strict neutrality during the Ethiopian affair, her understanding of Italy's cause, her refusal to participate in sanctions, and her maintenance of political and economic relations with this country, stated that:

"By operating on the concrete terrain of facts, Germany frees herself from all useless but irritating pretense. She retains in her relations with Italy that frankness and clearness which is fitting to two great friendly nations, who realize their reciprocal interests and base the development of their actions, which are in more than one point deliberately concordant, from clear-cut positions unencumbered by remnants of pending problems destined only to mediocre bargains."

German recognition of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia had been foreshadowed in a prominently published news despatch from Berlin on July 16th reporting that the President of the Danzig Senate had welcomed the new Italian

Consul General as the representative of the Kingdom of Italy and the Empire of Ethiopia and concluding with the statement that "the free city of Danzig had thus implicitly recognized Italian Ethiopia."

With regard to the general question of recognition, the GAZZETTA DEL POPOLO in one of its usually inspired articles from Rome stated on July 26th that all governments desiring to entertain friendly relations with Italy must recognize the King of Italy as Emperor of Ethiopia. Italy "places no peremptory period within which recognition must take place, but will certainly appreciate those countries which delay least." In this connection it noted the welcome given to Ambassador Valentino as representative of the King-Emperor by the Polish government and the comment of the Polish press thereon, and then went on to express appreciation of Germany's gesture.

This newspaper also reported that at the time the Italian troops were about to enter Addis Ababa, the diplomatic corps met and decided to treat them as foreign diplomats had treated the German troops at the time of Belgium's invasion, but that the German Chargé d'Affaires refused and withdrew from the meeting. The German Chargé was allegedly the first to call on Badoglio and talk over the situation.

The following letter from the German Minister in Addis Ababa to Marshal Graziani was published here on July 29th:

"I have just received from the German radio bulletin the news that my Government today notified the Royal Italian Government that the German Legation in Addis Ababa has been transformed into a Consulate General.

"Although I have as yet had no official confirmation of the report, I hasten to inform Your Excellency of this measure, which naturally is preliminary to the recognition of the Empire. I am very happy over the clearing up of the situation. And for the Italian Empire and for you all I send all best wishes."

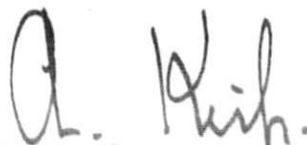
Marshal

Marshal Graziani, according to the newspapers, sent his Chief of Cabinet in person to thank the German representative for the above communication.

That Italy may be demanding recognition of the Ethiopian Empire as one of the conditions for her resumption of cooperation with sanctionist countries is implied in various editorials dealing with the three-power Locarno meeting and with the British declaration on July 27th regarding the Mediterranean accords, as is reported in my despatch No. 1811, of even date. In this connection the press has noted without comment the recent intimation of the London DAILY TELEGRAPH that the Italian government might receive satisfaction on this point in the near future.

Germany's tacit recognition of the Ethiopian Empire has been pointed to as a further public consolidation of that much-advertised Italo-German diplomatic front which certain British circles tend to regard as a system of blackmail against the British Empire, the ransom for peace in Europe to be British evacuation of the Mediterranean for Italy and, according to one theory, 100 million pounds of foreign exchange for Germany, or perhaps colonial compensation. The British public, it is remarked, might say that those concessions were well worth while if they guaranteed London against bombardment from the air, while France would prove indifferent provided her own interests were not directly involved.

Respectfully yours,



Alexander Kirk,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 740,0011 Mutual Guarantee/782 FOR Despatch #1811
(Locarno)

FROM Italy (Kirk) DATED July 30, 1936.
TO NAME 1-1137 ...

REGARDING: Pending question of recognition of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia. Government spokesman has said in the GIORNALE D'ITALIA that recognition of the accomplished fact in Ethiopia is essential to cordial relations with Italy.

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 702.6560k/1 FOR #244

FROM Danzig (Gallman) DATED July 16, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING: Amadeo Ponzzone, Italian Consul General at Danzig, was greeted by Senate President Greiser as "Consul General of the Kingdom of Italy and the Abyssinian Empire".

wb ✓

865D.01/162

AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Danzig, Free City of Danzig,
July 16, 1936.

Subject: Formal Reception of Italian Consul General
by President of Danzig Senate.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform the Department that, according to an announcement published in the semi-official NEUESTE NACHRICHTEN No. 163, dated July 15, 1936, the new Italian Consul General in Danzig, Count Amadeo Ponzono, when he was formally received on July 14, 1936, by Senate President Greiser, was greeted by President Greiser as "Consul General of the Kingdom of Italy and of the Abyssinian Empire".

Respectfully yours,

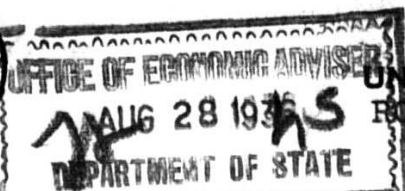
W. J. Gallman,
American Consul.

Original and 4 copies to the Department.
One copy sent to American Embassy, Warsaw.
One copy sent to American Embassy, Berlin.
One copy sent to American Consulate, Geneva.

File No. 700

WJG/ss.

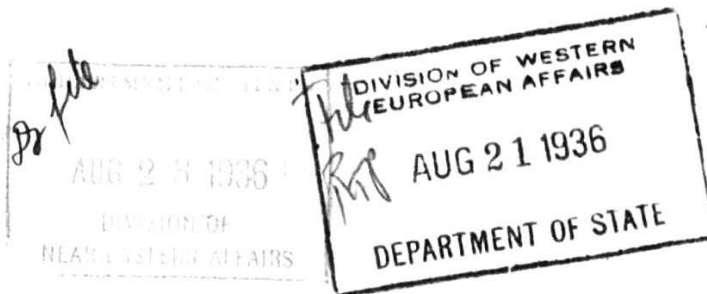
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EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ROME, August 5, 1936.

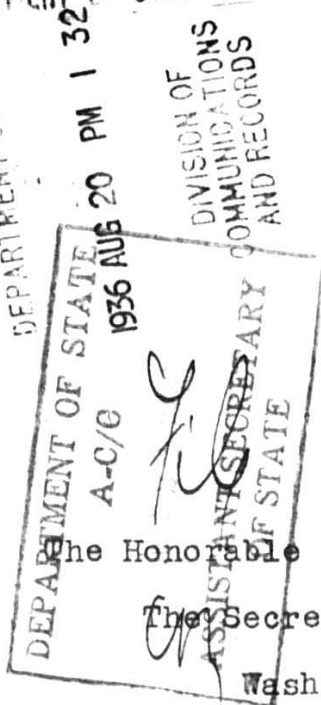
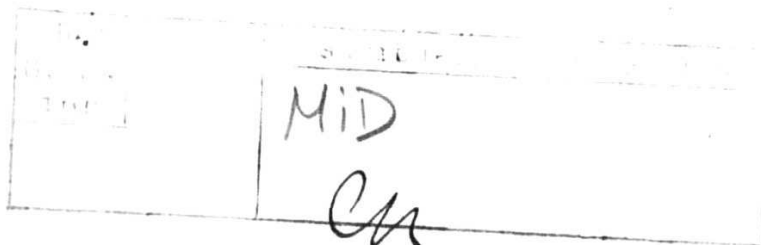
No. 1023

Subject: Italian Administration and Development of Ethiopia.



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AUG 24 1936
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS



The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

With reference to my despatch No. 1797 of July 22, 1936, regarding the Italian Administration and Development of Ethiopia, I have the honor to submit below a digest of information published here since July 22nd with regard to Italian action and plans for the government and exploitation of the conquered territory.

MILITARY AND POLITICAL SECTION

Attack on Addis Ababa and Other Acts of Violence.

As was reported in my telegram No. 302 of July 30, the Italian press reports successive attacks by armed bands of Abyssinians, first against the Addis Ababa-Dessie road

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road and later against the capital itself. With regard to the first incident a news despatch under an Addis Ababa dateline of June 26th stated that a large group of bandit ex-soldiers of "Tafari" led by Averra Cassa, son of Ras Cassa, and by Ras Imru attacked several armed posts guarding the highway. The Italians were said to have repelled the attack with such energy that the enemy learned a severe lesson and those who escaped death were compelled to take refuge in the mountains.

It appears, however, that the rout of the bandits was not so complete as the press account indicated nor the lesson so well learned for on July 29th an official communiqué gave the following account of an attack on Addis Ababa by a large force of Abyssinian rebels under the same leaders:

"During the night of July 28th rebel bands, filtering through the bushes between our scattered outposts on the roads leading to the capital, succeeded in concentrating in the bush surrounding Addis Ababa and at dawn attempted an attack upon the city.

"The rebels, led by the sons of Ras Cassa, expected that at the first rifle shot the native population of the city would rise against the Italians. On the contrary, not only did the population remain perfectly quiet but it even united with the Italians to repel the attack.

"Three native bands of Abyssinians in Addis Ababa, two of which were commanded respectively by Ras Ailu and Ras Chebbede, contributed most effectively to quell the mad attempt of the rebels.

"During the same morning the rebels were driven back with heavy losses estimated at about 1,000 men. Many rebels were made prisoners, among whom was the Bishop of Dessie, Petros, bitter enemy of the Italians and noted for his intense anti-Italian propaganda. Petros was not only a rebel against

Italian.

Italian authority but also against the supreme head of the Coptic Church in Abyssinia, Kirillos, who, in the name of the entire clergy, had at an early date made active submission to our authorities.

"Aviation was most active in the work of observation and bombardment and contributed brilliantly to putting the rebels to flight.

"Our troops, both national and Eritrean, conducted themselves splendidly. Our losses were insignificant. Large quantities of arms and ammunition were captured."

Subsequent and more detailed versions of the incident describe the defenses of Addis Ababa as composed of an outer circle of widely separated but strongly held outposts and an inner circle of defensive positions spaced close together. The Abyssinian force estimated at about ten thousand men slipped in between the outposts of the outer circle and attacked the inner defenses. The outer circle closed in upon them, however, and they found themselves between two destructive lines of machine-gun fire which, revised versions of the attack estimate, resulted in killing at least half of their number rather than one thousand men as the official communiqué stated. In the press comment upon the incident much was made of the loyalty of the native population of the city which, instead of joining the rebels as the latter had apparently expected, remained loyal to the Italians and assisted them in repelling the attack. Avera Cassa and Ras Imru are said to have played in vain their last card in this assault upon Addis Ababa.

The dispersion by Italian troops of brigands in Shoa, north of Addis Ababa, is also reported by the press and it is stated that rigorous action by Italian military police

police continues without truce in this entire zone (reference telegram No. 302 of July 30th). The Italian military authorities admit, however, that until the rainy season is over they will be seriously handicapped in exterminating guerrilla bands operating in the wilder regions of the country. In this connection, the Consul General at Naples informs the Embassy that he understands that several Italian officers in Ethiopia, who were scheduled to return to Italy on leave or for repatriation, had their permissions cancelled and were unable to obtain reconsideration of the order in spite of the reported use, in some cases, of considerable personal influence in Rome. The Consul General thinks that the retention of these officers in Ethiopia may be connected with the recent outbreak of brigandage reported above and in former despatches.

The press continues to refer to the "heroes who died at Lekemti" and reports that on July 28th a memorial service was held for them which was attended by Marshal Graziani, His Royal Highness, the Duke of Ancona, and the highest military and civil authorities of the "Vicerealm." Submission to Italian Authority and Reconstruction Work.

To offset the stories of brigandage and rebellion the press prominently reports the "incessant rhythm" of the submissions to Italian authority by numerous chiefs in the districts of Uarana, Sidamo, Arussi, Cercer, and elsewhere. It is also reported that General Geloso's column, which has been advancing from the Kenya border toward the lake region has now occupied Aghemariam, some 100 kilometers north of Javello (see page 1 of my last despatch), and that thousands of natives joyfully welcome the passage

of

of Italians through this region.

With regard to rumored difficulties between the Italians and Ras Seyum, the press publishes conspicuously under an Addis Ababa dateline of August 4th an account of a visit by Ras Seyum to Marshal Graziani with comments to the effect that, while the British press was spreading false news of bloody encounters between a force of 7,000 rebels headed by Ras Seyum and Italian troops in the zone of Dessie, Seyum was on his way to Addis Ababa in response to an invitation from the "Viceroy." According to the press account Ras Seyum will convoke an important reunion of chieftains in Addis Ababa during which he will publicly renew his oath of allegiance to Italy. A second ceremony will be held later on the same day during which, in accordance with local tradition, purses of thalers will be distributed to the clergy as a contribution by the government to religious festivals. The GIORNALE D'ITALIA on August 5th publishes on the front page an interview between its Addis Ababa correspondent and Ras Seyum in which Seyum is quoted as praising the heroism of Italian troops and as saying, in reply to the correspondent's question regarding the possibility of further uprisings against Italian authority, that nothing was to be feared from the really important chieftains and that, by degrees, the scattered bands of brigands would be glad to accept Italian protection and "assistance along the road to civilization." From now on, Ras Seyum is quoted as saying, Abyssinia will know no other flag than the Italian. The correspondent states that the arrival of Ras Seyum, a distinguished chief of old Ethiopia, to do homage to Marshal Graziani has made a great impression upon the native

native population and makes them realize the futility of rebellion against the strength and justice of Italian authority. The same news despatch telling of the visit of Ras Seyum to Graziani also announces the arrival in Addis Ababa of General Birolì, Governor of Asmara.

The press reports the destruction of a munitions depot near Massawa due to spontaneous combustion caused by the excessive heat. The published account states that no serious damage was done to nearby property and that the only casualties were "10 people slightly wounded."

Administration of the Government General.

The press reports that, as a result of the arrival in Addis Ababa of a number of new officials, the Viceregal Government has been constituted as follows:

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Marshal Graziani, /	Governor General, Viceroy
Lieutenant Colonel of the General Staff Mazzi,	Chief of Cabinet
Dr. Arnaldo Pedretti,	Vice Governor General
Signor Canero Medici	Superior Direction of General Affairs and Personnel
Signor Dall'Armi	Superior Direction of Economic and Financial Affairs
Signor Avolio	Superior Direction of Civil and Political Affairs
General Gariboldi	Chief of the General Staff of the Government General
Colonel Gioda	Assistant Chief of Staff
Signor Siniscalchi	Civil Governor of Addis Ababa.

Government of Addis Ababa.

The Governor of Addis Ababa, according to a Stefani despatch, has given orders for a census of both the white and native populations of the Ethiopian capital.

It is

It is said that this will be the first accurate census of Addis Ababa ever to be taken.

On August 1st a records office was established for the obligatory registration of births, deaths, marriages, changes of residence, etc.

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The Stefani Agency also reports a general reduction in prices through anti-profiteering measures enacted by the Finance Guards. Pending the organization of a regular inspection corps, a body of natives has been formed to watch over the markets and see that the Government's regulations are observed.

Finance.

865251
It is reported that the question of taxation is now being studied by the Viceregal Government. No taxes are being collected at present, but when a system is established, taxes retroactive to the beginning of the Italian occupation will be imposed.

On July 22nd 50000 war medals, given by their holders to the Italian government during the "economic seige," were melted together at the Rome Mint in the presence of the Director General of the Treasury, the Director of the Mint, representatives of Veterans' Associations, and high Fascist officials. The ingots therefrom are to be coined into money for Ethiopia.

Customs.

With regard to the admission into Italy of merchandise from Ethiopia, the following official communiqué was published in the press on August 3rd:

"The

"The Ministry of Finance has sent the following circular to the customs houses under it: 'The preferential customs tariff established for merchandise of Italian colonial origin is applicable to Ethiopian merchandise imported into the Kingdom. Only temporarily and pending new orders, it is established that Customs Houses may waive the certificate of origin, provided that it is shown without any doubt, on the basis of appropriate documents (bills, etc.) that the merchandise is of Ethiopian origin. In this connection the administrative regulation by which for the admission of coffee it was sufficient to show the certificate of point of shipment, is repealed."

Justice.

The Stefani Agency reports that the Governor of Addis Ababa recently visited the Court for Natives in that city and afterwards gave orders that a suitable court house be constructed as soon as possible.

8658041
It is also reported that from June 1st to July 15th this court disposed of 159 civil cases, almost all of which were for debts, and placed on its docket 202 penal cases, of which 70 were for misdemeanors and 132 for crimes. The Court of Conciliation heard 45 cases, of which 40 were successfully settled.

Two more natives who participated in killing the party of Italian workers of the Gondrand Company, were condemned by the Military Court and executed on July 27th.

COMMUNICATIONS

Postal Service.

The following official communiqué was published in the Italian press on July 24th:

"Immediately

865271
"Immediately effective, the maximum weight of parcels post packages addressed to offices in Italian East Africa (Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Somalia) has been fixed at 20 kilos, and all limitations as to the number of packages each sender may transmit daily have been abolished. The period of time packages may remain at their destination, in case they are not withdrawn by their addressees, however, remains limited to one month after that of their arrival. No change has been made for packages addressed to mobilized soldiers with the general address A.O.I."

Radio Service.

Major Matteini, a well-known radio expert has just visited Addis Ababa, Asmara, and Mogadiscio for the purpose of studying and organizing radio services.

Industrial and Economic Development.

The press reports that the trade restrictions adopted by the Government General are gradually forcing foreign merchants to substitute Italian for foreign merchandise and are eliminating from the market "undesirable persons, particularly dealers in contraband foreign exchange."

A Special Economic Office has been established in Addis Ababa, under Professor Trevisani, for the purpose of studying the economic problems involved in developing the Empire.

The Ministry of Colonies has been busy considering applications of companies for the development of Ethiopia and is gradually granting the necessary authorizations. IL SOLE of July 29th reports that the Ethiopian Cotton Company (Societa Anonima per il Cotone di Ethiopia) was formed in Milan under the auspices of the Executive Committee of the National Fascist Federation of Cotton

Industrialists,

Industrialists, with a capital of two million lire which can be increased to 20 millions. The purpose of the new company is to develop the cultivation of cotton in Ethiopia with a view to making Italy economically independent in this product. The Ethiopian Cotton Company is authorized to make investigations for the most efficient production and utilization of Ethiopian cotton, obtain concessions, purchase plants, inventions, and patents, and form companies or obtain interests or participation in companies already established or to be constituted with similar purposes.

The press of August 1st announced the formation under the auspices of the National Fascist Federation of the Wood Industry, of two companies, entitled "The Imperial Company for the Utilization of Wood Essences in Ethiopia" (Compagnia Imperiale per la Utilizzazione delle Essenze Legnose in Ethiopia), and "The Imperial Company of Products of the Wood Industry for Ethiopia" (Compagnia Imperiale dei Prodotti dell'Industria del Legno per Ethiopia), with capitals of one and two million lire, respectively. The former company will exploit the Ethiopian wood resources and the latter will finish semi-manufactured wood products sent from Italy and later completely manufacture wood products.

The Fiat Company has recently opened temporary offices in Addis Ababa.

A Technical Office has been founded in Addis Ababa composed of four Sections with the following duties, respectively: 1. The construction and maintenance of government buildings, and the study of a sewerage system; 2. The Construction and repair of streets; 3. The construction and repair of aquaducts, electric lighting systems,

systems, etc.; 4. The carrying out of the "plan of arrangement" of Addis Ababa, with the approval of the Commission which has been drafting it.

In connection with this "plan of arrangement" the press reports that the Ethiopian capital will be divided into three large districts, the European city, the native city, and the industrial city. The first will be situated on the slope beyond the Old Ghebi; the second, near the present market; and the third, about the railway station. Large stores and centers of attraction are to be constructed along the street from the St. George Palace to the railway station.

Colonization.

The press reports that the Commissariat for Migration and Colonization will establish offices in each large city of Ethiopia.

The Fascist Party on July 24th issued the following communiqué:

"Combatant Fascists and other organizations under the Fascist Party have made proposals for the construction of agricultural villages or communities in Ethiopia. The Federal Secretaries announce that such proposals have no likelihood of being accepted at the present time."

FOREIGN INTERESTS

Djibouti Railway.

With reference to recent negotiations between the Italian Government and the Djibouti Railway Company over freight rates (Embassy's despatch No. 1756 of June 26, 1936), the following official communiqué was published in the Italian press on August 2nd:

"An

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Franco Ethiopia
884.773

"An agreement has been concluded in Rome between the Italian Colonial Administration and the Djibouti Railway Company. This agreement constitutes a 'modus Vivendi' in force until December 31st and regulates the questions of railway tariffs, exchange rates, payments, and material."

Swedish Hospital.

According to a news despatch under Stockholm dateline, Dr. Hanner, the Swedish Consul at Addis Ababa, who is at present in Sweden on leave, declared that the Swedish hospital in Addis Ababa, which was destroyed during the sack of the city, had been rebuilt by the Italians and was operating normally.

FOREIGN DIPLOMATS

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702.6265d
An official communiqué was published on July 25th to the effect that the German Ambassador at Rome had notified the Foreign Minister, Count Ciano, that the German Government had decided to abolish its Legation at Addis Ababa and replace it by a Consulate General. In this connection the press, under Addis Ababa dateline of July 29th, published a letter from the German Minister there to Marshal Graziani notifying him that he had learned unofficially from the German radio bulletin "of this measure, which," he added, "is naturally preliminary to the recognition of the Empire." Marshal Graziani, according to the newspapers, sent his Chief of Cabinet in person to thank the German representative for this communication. (See Embassy's despatch No. 1812 of July 30, 1936).

Respectfully yours,

A. Kirk.

Alexander Kirk
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ROME, August 19, 1936.

No. 1839

Subject: Italian Administration and Development of
Ethiopia.

DIVISION OF
TRADE AGREEMENTS
TA

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

DIVISION OF
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

SEP 1936

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

SEP 3 - 1936

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

With reference to my despatch No. 1823 of
August 5, 1936, regarding the Italian Administration
and Development of Ethiopia, I have the honor to sub-
mit below a digest of information published here since
August 5th with regard to Italian action and plans for
the government and exploitation of the conquered terri-
tory.

Military and Political.

Since my last despatch under reference there have
been no reports published of disturbances or serious
incidents in Ethiopia. The occupation of Garamulata

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by Italian troops has been announced together with the wholesale submission of chiefs in that region to Italian authority. Important submissions in the Uebi Gestro and Cercer regions are also announced.

The press has featured the energetic measures adopted by Marshal Graziani's Government to establish order and discipline in Ethiopia. Perhaps the most important step was the convocation of the governors of the five political divisions of Ethiopia at Addis Ababa to report to the "Viceroy" upon conditions in their respective territories and to receive orders regarding policies to be adopted. According to the press accounts the reports of the governors were optimistic both as regards military and political matters.

With further reference to the visit of Ras Seyum to Addis Ababa mentioned in my last despatch, the press has prominently featured the ceremonies surrounding his renewed oath of fealty to Italy which took place on August 6th. It is said that more than 40 Ethiopian chiefs were present at the ceremony which took place in the "Viceroy's" palace as well as representatives of the Coptic and Mussulman clergy. Speeches were made by Marshal Graziani, Ras Seyum, and Professor Afeuork (an ex-Ethiopian Minister to Rome), the first giving renewed assurances of Italy's interest in the welfare of her new subjects and the other two expressing their approval and appreciation of Italy's policies.

The press also reports an imposing manifestation of loyalty on the part of the Mussulman population of Addis Ababa on August 10th. Marshal Graziani is said to have received in audience El Said Ahmed Bin Abdalla Idris, head

of the

of the Mussulman community of Shoa, as well as many other Arab notables, in the presence of the five provincial governors and numerous high officials and functionaries. Graziani shook hands with each of the Mussulman dignitaries and then made a speech in which he stressed the important part played by Arab troops and workmen in Italy's victory. El Said Idris replied with "words of gratitude."

In addition to Ras Seyum's act of submission to Graziani, the press reports that Aialeu Burru, son-in-law of Ras Cassa, arrived in Addis Ababa on August 14th and was received by Marshal Graziani to whom he gave the oath of fealty. Ras Hailu, who has, with his followers, been assisting the Italians to keep order around the capital, was among those present at the ceremony which was described as being impressively solemn. Aialeu Burru was reported to have stated in reply to questions from newspaper correspondents, that his act of submission was the formal realization of a long cherished desire.

In contrast to the demonstration of cordiality between the pro-Italian Ethiopian chiefs and the Italian authorities, which have been so largely advertised, the press announced that the confiscation of the property of Ras Nasibu and Uolde Mariam, former Ethiopian Minister to France, has been decreed by the "Viceroy" as a punishment for plotting against the security of Ethiopia and fomenting civil war.

Economic and Industrial Development.

The press announces the recent arrival in Addis Ababa of 700 Italian workers who will be employed on local work. It adds that, under orders from the Duce, all workers will be divided into squads and centuries. They will be fur-

nished

nished with working uniforms of different colors according to their respective specialties: gray for mechanics, blue for chauffeurs, black for printers, white for masons, and green for carpenters and joiners. They will also wear the insignia of the Fascist Party and of their respective union on their breasts and the insignia of their firm or company on their sleeves. Chiefs of squads will wear red stripes on their cuffs.

865d.658
The Federation of Agrarian and Foodstuffs Industries, under the direction of the Ministry of Colonies, has just created among its members two companies; the Ethiopian Company for the Processing of Meats (Compagnia Etiopica per la Lavorazione delle Carni), and the Ethiopian Company for the Processing of Milk (Compagnia Etiopica per la Lavorazione del Latte), for the purpose of exploiting the meat and milk resources of Ethiopia.

865d.502
Meetings of the building trades organizations were called together to prepare the way for rebuilding the city "destroyed by the order of the ex-Negus" and for generally improving housing conditions in both the European and native quarters. Over 200 Italian merchants are also reported to have met to establish normal conditions of trade and commerce. According to the newspaper account the Viceregal government desires to leave the merchants a free hand in the conduct of their affairs but will punish any irregularities or infractions of the regulations very severely. A subsequent news despatch from Addis Ababa states that the control of prices is entirely satisfactory and has been achieved without the use of any coercive measures by the Government.

With

With regard to the Italian Commercial Mission mentioned on page 8 of my despatch No. 1776 of July 9 the press announces under the headline "What Italian Exporters Ought to Know" that the work of this Commission is being actively pursued. The article gives a resume of the Commission's findings regarding the importation of essential commodities such as salt, cotton, building materials, petroleum, clothes, cloth, automobiles, etc., into Ethiopia and the principal countries which supply the Ethiopian market with these commodities. According to this account the largest proportion is supplied by England, Czechoslovakia, and France. The United States is mentioned as being the principal source of automobiles. The article points out that Italy is in a position to furnish practically all of the commodities needed by Ethiopia and must prepare to do so, taking into consideration, in the case of automobiles, the very low price quoted by American automobile manufacturers.

865d.63
It is announced that the Italian Royal Academy by way of celebrating the foundation of the Empire, has instituted a competition for a prize of 50,000 lire to be awarded for the best original scientific study on the mineral resources of Ethiopia. The competition will close on the 31st of December 1939 and will only be open to Italian subjects.

Administration of the Government General.

The press reports that the Government General has enrolled 85 Italian veterans of the Italo-Ethiopian war as civil officials. They comprise engineers, draftsmen, surveyors, physicians, health officers, stenographers, accountants, clerks, guards, mechanics, gardeners, etc.

It is

It is stated that when additional personnel is needed, it will also be chosen from among the veterans.

With further reference to the creation of a permanent career service for the Colonial Government of East Africa described on page 9 of my despatch No. 1797 of July 22nd, it is announced that on the 13th of September applications for admission to this service will be closed. Three-fourths of the available positions, it is stated, will be filled by men who are veterans of the Ethiopian campaign.

Finance.

865d.515
With reference to the decree of July 2, 1936, establishing the Italian lira as the only legal currency in Ethiopia (Embassy's despatch No. 1797 of July 22nd), the press under Addis Ababa dateline now reports that a decree will shortly be issued authorizing the circulation of the thaler and that three million thalers will be put into circulation. By way of explanation of this change in policy, it states that "in view of the vast trade with the natives, especially in the interior regions, this circulation of thalers will permit a real resumption of commerce and also establish the value of the lire itself, which can always be changed into thalers. Naturally the lira will remain the only official currency, the thaler being tolerated during the period necessary for the substitution." It is admitted that "several months" more of experimentation will be needed before monetary and exchange conditions in Ethiopia can be systematized.

Communications.

The press reports the following statistics regarding the operation of the postal service in Ethiopia during the
past

past two months. It handled more than 500 quintals of correspondence, 10,000 pieces of registered mail, 6,000 money orders totalling about 11 million lire, postal savings deposits (depositi su libretti) of 400,000 lire, and postal savings certificates (buoni) of more than 200,000 lire; distributed 1,000 packages, sold 335,000 stamps, and received or transmitted 30,000 telegrams. It has also opened three branches in Addis Ababa. The Addis Ababa post office announces that saving deposits of Italian workmen residing in the capital amounted, during the month of July, to 2,989,400 lire according to one news despatch and 3,172,989.40 according to another but both agree that, in view of the fact that comparatively few workmen have yet arrived in Addis Ababa, the rainy season being still in progress, the amount is noteworthy.

865d, 72
According to the press, there are already telegraph offices in operation at Addis Ababa, Diredawa, Harrar, Giggiga, Macallé, Adigrat, Adua, Aksum, Gondar, Dessie, and Enticcio. A number of others are to be added at important points in the near future.

865.79665d
A change of route of the Asmara-Mogadiscio lap of the Rome-East Africa air line has been decreed by Marshal Graziani to begin on August 18th. It is reported that Assab will henceforth be a regular stop in the line and that calls at Diredawa and Gorraheh instead of at Berbera in British Somalia will be made. This change is said to assure direct communications between Italy's possessions from the Mediterranean to the Indian Ocean and also to link the Ogaden and Harrar to the system.

Foreign Diplomats.

The

701.6765d
The press, under Addis Ababa dateline of August 7th, announced that the Turkish Minister at Addis Ababa had that day received orders to leave Ethiopia with his staff and family, leaving behind one secretary and one consular agent.

Respectfully yours,



Alexander Kirk
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

GG/RH/gc

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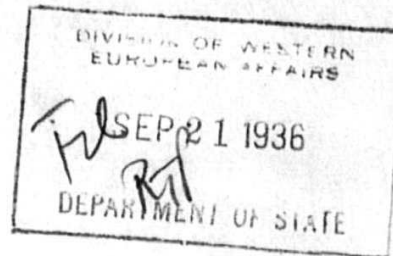
LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

July 22, 1936.

AE
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No. 159.

Subject: Arrival of Vice Governor General Petretti.

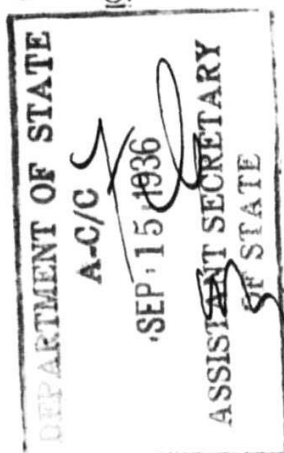


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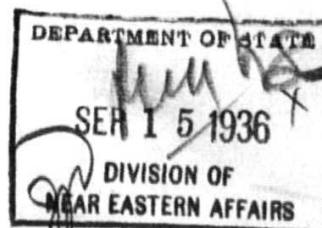
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1936 SEP 14 AM 11 44

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS



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In U. S. A.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



FILED

SEP 22 1936

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report the arrival in Addis Ababa yesterday from Italy of Dr. Arnaldo Petretti who was recently appointed Vice Governor General of Italian East Africa.

Dr. Petretti began his career in the Ministries of of the Interior, Finance, and Agriculture, and has

since

since 1926 been in charge of various important Bureaus in the Ministry of National Economy. He is considered an expert political economist and his present appointment is said to be due largely to the fact that he has been engaged upon special studies connected with mining problems.

Respectfully yours,



G. Van H. Ingert
Minister Resident

File No. 711

CVHE/ast



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ROME, September 2, 1936.

WE
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No. 1863

Subject: Italian Administration and Development of
Ethiopia.

865 d.o.
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1936 SEP 14 PM 12 45

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 19 1936
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF WESTERN
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
SEP 15 1936
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADVISER
SEP 21 1936
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A-C/C
SEP 15 1936
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

SEP 16 1936

DIVISION OF
TRADE AGREEMENTS
TA
SEP 25 1936
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sir:

With reference to my despatch No. 1839 of August
19th, 1936, regarding the Italian Administration and
Development of Ethiopia, I have the honor to submit
below a digest of information published here since
August 19th with regard to Italian action and plans
for the government and exploitation of the conquered
territory.

FILED
OCT 1 1936

Military and Political.

The press has allotted little space to Ethiopian
news during the past fortnight. Another attempted
attack on Addis Ababa by marauding bands was reported
inconspicuously

not
765.84

inconspicuously on August 28th. According to the official report, some 1,200 raiders were discovered by Abyssinian patrols south of the city in the vicinity of the airport and were immediately attacked and dispersed with heavy losses. The Italian casualties were put at 15 Askaris killed and 40 wounded, while the Abyssinian raiders were said to have lost 200. It was also reported that a small group of marauders were attacked near DireDawa and were driven away by the Italian troops. In the provinces of Galla and Sidama it is said that colonial policing and the military occupation of new territory is proceeding steadily, notwithstanding the rainy season. It is also announced that new territories in the zones of Cercer, Garamulata, and Cundudu have been occupied. In this connection the press has announced the departure for East Africa in recent days of several contingents of railway militia to guard the Addis Ababa-Djibouti railway line. It is also stated that 200 members of the Fascist Foreign Legion, which is composed of volunteers who were living abroad at the time the Ethiopian trouble began, have enlisted for permanent duty in the colonial militia and have abandoned any intention of returning to their former homes.

Considerable prominence was given by the press to accounts of the ceremonial act of homage before Marshal Graziani of the "Degiac" Aialeu Burru, which was mentioned in my last despatch. The liberation of 100 political prisoners and other acts of clemency by the Viceregal government were described in connection with this ceremony. The "Degiac" Selassie Gugsu, who has lately been visiting Italy,

Italy, was reported to have called at the Ministry of Colonies while in Rome and to have formally expressed his devotion to the "King Emperor" and to Mussolini. Ras Seyum is said to have visited the Fascist party headquarters in Addis Ababa and to have expressed in person his admiration for the Fascist organization. A Stephani despatch states that the general political situation in Ethiopia improves from day to day.

With regard to military and naval movements relating to East Africa the press has lately mentioned several important changes of command. General Aimone Cat, who had command of aerial operations on the northern front during the Ethiopian campaign, is reported to have returned to Italy together with General Ranza, who commanded the air corps on the southern front. It is also stated that General Maronesi has been relieved as chief of staff for aviation in East Africa by General Matricardi. It is further announced that the high command of the air forces in East Africa will soon be transferred from Asmara to Addis Ababa. In this connection General Pinna, Deputy Chief of Staff of Aviation in Italy, is now on a visit of inspection in East Africa, according to press reports. Admiral Tur has been replaced by Admiral Bacchi as commander of the Red Sea Squadron. It appears from press reports that the Red Sea Squadron is being reduced as the return to home waters of two submarines as well as of the cruiser TARANTO, all formerly attached to that division, has been reported. The Naval Attache is of the opinion, however, that these units may be replaced and that their return to Italy may simply be in accordance with the practice

of rotating units which have difficult tropical assignments.

Fascist Activities.

865d.80
The Fascist Party in Ethiopia during the past month has been organizing the native boys into the "Ethiopian Youths of the Lictor." It is reported that 400 have already joined in Harrar, 200 in DireDawa, and 80 in Giggiga, and that the number is expected to increase rapidly. As an inducement to join, free rations are distributed weekly among the members.

Commercial and Industrial Development.

865d.65
On August 24th a Commission of Industrialists left Venice in the S. S. PALESTINA for East Africa where they will put themselves at the disposition of the Viceregal Government for the purpose of immediately establishing factories for the manufacture of bricks. In this connection a large Italian firm is reported to be shipping machinery capable of producing 100,000 bricks daily. Special furnaces will also be sent for drying wood so that it can be used in construction without seasoning.

865d.52
The Commissariat for Migration and Colonization has established a special office in Djibouti to assist laborers passing through that port to and from Ethiopia. It is reported that the Commissariat has decided shortly to open offices in Gondar, Harrar, and Dessie. The Fascist Party has established an office to assist laborers in Addis Ababa and announces its intention of creating similar offices wherever they may be found necessary.

The press announces that on September 1st, 300

Italian

Italian workers arrived in Addis Ababa, making a total of 1,500 in the capital. It goes on to say that "under the chairmanship of the Viceroy, and with the Vice Governor General, the Federal Secretary, and the competent government authorities present, there was examined the question of the lodging and the standard of living of the Italian workers in Addis Ababa which the Viceroy wishes to be in accord with the dignity of the ruling race, in conformity with the general directions of the Duce to this effect."

Extensive plans for the reconstruction of Addis Ababa have been drawn up and will be reported upon later. It is announced that building on a large scale will commence as soon as the seasonal rains, which are already diminishing, cease.

FINANCE.

Bank of Ethiopia.

865d.516
The general assembly of stock holders of the former Bank of Ethiopia are reported by the press to have held a meeting on September 1st for the purpose of discussing means of liquidating the Bank. They appointed the Director of the Bank of Italy, Signor Vladimiro Liquori, liquidator, and a committee of auditors composed of Signor Franco Canero Medici, Superior Director of Government; Dr. Nicola Bottari, Superior Inspector of the Treasury, and Signor Domenico Picucci, Chief of the Mission of the Bank of Italy in Ethiopia. According to the newspapers, "the ex-vice-governor of the Bank of Ethiopia, Mr. Wright, a British subject, will leave the Bank of Ethiopia on the ninth instant, after having cordially collaborated with the Italian authorities in the systematization of the bank now in liquidation."

Bank

Bank of Italy.

The press states that natives in large numbers are continuing to exchange their local money into Italian lire at the branch of the Bank of Italy in Addis Ababa.

Bank of Rome.

Various officials of the Bank of Rome have recently arrived in Addis Ababa for the purpose of organizing a branch of that bank there and later in other parts of Ethiopia. According to the Stefani Agency it is proposed to establish the next three branches in Gondar, Harrar, and Dessie.

Taxes.

865d.512
By Royal Decree No. 1561 of July 9, 1936, published in the Official Gazette of August 28th, the tax on bachelors in force in Italy, was made applicable to the Italian colonies.

COMMUNICATION

Postal Service.

865.7165d
On September 2nd a new postal service between Genoa and Massaua was inaugurated with the departure of the S. S. ~~SIEMEN~~ of the Messina Company carrying a considerable quantity of mail.

The Ministry of Colonies, with the cooperation of the National Fascist Syndicates of Fine Arts and Architects, has established a competition, to which Italians belonging to the syndicates are eligible, for designing five ordinary postage stamps and five air mail stamps for Italian East Africa. Sketches must be submitted to the Ministry of Colonies not later than September 10, 1936. Twenty

thousand

thousand lire in prizes will be awarded.

Aviation.

865d.7962
The press reports that a new civil aviation field is being prepared about ten kilometers from Addis Ababa, suitable for use even during the rainy season.

865.79665d
On September 1st the Ala Littoria inaugurated a regular air service between Addis Ababa and Rome. The trip takes two and one half days and the airplanes stop in Asmara, Cyrenaica, and in Southern Italy.

Automobiles.

865d.797
The Governor of Addis Ababa has issued a decree fixing the rates which may be charged for public automobile service.

With regard to private automobiles, the press reports that since they are very important as a means of transportation in Ethiopia, a careful study is being made with a view to making it possible for the greatest number of people to own cars. In this connection it is stated that efforts will be made to lower the prices of Italian automobiles in order to capture the market, since at present an eight cylinder Ford, 1936 berlin model, costs 14,500 lire in Addis Ababa while a Balilla car costs 18,000 lire.

PUBLIC HEALTH

865d.12
The Ministry of Colonies is signing contracts with a number of physicians for service in East Africa. They will be selected by a committee appointed for the purpose by the Ministry. The applicants must be not more than 35 years of age, except war veterans decorated for bravery and belonging to the Fascist Party since October 28, 1922,

for

for whom the age limit is 49 years.

The King has conferred the hereditary title of Count of Chisimaio on Dr. Aldo Castellani, head of the Sanitary Service in East Africa during the Italo-Ethiopian War, for his services during the campaign.

The press reports that the Civil Government of Addis Ababa, in conformity with directions of the Government General, is making a study of the problem of leprosy. The lepers, who were formerly allowed freely to mingle among the population, are to be isolated in special hospitals and villages. The authorities, it is added, are giving particular attention to the question of saving the children of lepers.

RELIGION

Catholic Church.

8656.404
The Archbishop of Rhodes, Monsignor Gianmaria Castellani, has been appointed Apostolic Visitor of the Ethiopian Empire. The press states that he will leave for East Africa on September 25th.

It is also reported that a large Catholic Church will be constructed in Addis Ababa. Monsignor Santa, Apostolic Prefect of Caffa, who will be Vicar of Addis Ababa, has begun to collect funds for the church. The Viceroy opened the subscription with a gift of 100,000 lire.

Coptic Church.

By ordinance of the Viceroy a government subsidy will be paid on the first of every month to each of the twenty-eight Coptic Churches in Addis Ababa for their maintenance in the "general interests of the population."

Hebrew

Hebrew Religion.

865d.400
A Stefani despatch under Gondar dateline of August 21st states that the chiefs of the people of Falascia, who are of the Hebrew faith, swore allegiance to Italy before Governor Pirzio Biroli, who took the occasion to inform them that their religion would receive the same liberties and respect as all the other religions in Italian East Africa. The Governor of Gondar then caused subsidies to be distributed for the poor.

A delegate from the Jewish Communities of Italy recently arrived in Ethiopia to ascertain the needs of the Hebrews of Addis Ababa and DireDawa and the natives of Falascia.

FOREIGN COMMERCIAL INTERESTS

Addis Ababa-Djibouti Railway (French).

865d.77
The press reports under Addis Ababa dateline of August 28th that a modus vivendi concluded between the Italian Government and the Addis Ababa-Djibouti Railway Company has been made public and that its two main points are as follows:

(1) That the high rates in force during the reign of the Negus were justified by the scarcity of traffic and that they would be unjustified today inasmuch as one month's traffic is now as large as that of one year formerly;

(2) That the interests of the railway are closely bound up with the Italian occupation on which the safety of the line depends. On the basis of the first point, the agreement provides for reductions in rates of from 20 to 30 per cent for passengers and of from 40 to 60 per cent on five-ton shipments belonging to the same person.

On

On merchandise already enjoying special rates, a reduction of 20 per cent is made with an additional reduction of from 10 to 25 per cent on the basis of the monthly tonnage carried for each client. On the basis of the second point, the agreement provides that the Italian Government shall enjoy reductions of 50 per cent on tickets of individual soldiers and officials and 60 per cent on tickets of soldiers traveling in bodies. Free transportation shall be accorded for soldiers and arms employed in the protection of the railroad itself. Other important concessions are that the payment of freight charges on material transported into Ethiopia shall be made in lire and that the railway company is to order its locomotives and cars from Italian manufacturers. This, it is pointed out, is an excellent way for the company to use the lire which it derives from the traffic.

Foreign Diplomats.

701.0084
The press announces that the French Minister at Addis Ababa will leave Ethiopia at the end of September.

It is also reported under Addis Ababa dateline of August 27th that the former German Minister to Abyssinia, Dr. Strohm, accompanied by the representative of the German National Socialist Party in Ethiopia, Dr. Bruns, paid a visit to the Fascist headquarters in Addis Ababa, where he was cordially received by Signor Guido Cortese (the head of the organization in Ethiopia) and a number of Black Shirts. In this connection Dr. Strohm is reported to have made the following speech in Italian:

"I am

"I am very happy to present, at the headquarters of the Fascist Federation of Addis Ababa, Dr. Bruns, chief of the section of the National Socialist Party of Addis Ababa. Germany has followed with great interest the glorious campaign of the Italian forces in Abyssinia because as National Socialists we know that great historical deeds are done through great changes in the mentality of a people. We know that the Italian victory is a victory of the Fascist idea. As you have conquered Ethiopia with the Fascist idea, you should also construct the new Ethiopia in a Fascist manner. Nationalist Germany followed with the keenest interest the Fascist event of the March on Rome and will follow with renewed interest and the greatest sympathy the Fascist work of constructing the Empire. I can assure you that the Germans who live in Abyssinia and who are members of the National Socialist Party are admirers of Fascism and its great Duce and are therefore happy to follow closely the efforts of Fascism and, where possible, to aid the grand work with their modest experience."

762,65
In reply Signor Cortese declared that the visit of the former German Minister was greatly appreciated and confirmed the sympathy which Germany showed over the Italian victory in Africa. He added that the Italians of Fascist Italy had good memories and would not forget the friendliness of Germany during the period of the "iniquitous and absurd sanctions." In conclusion he declared that the Italian and German peoples had found in Fascism the way in which vigorous and healthy peoples could ensure their future in an atmosphere of social peace and national solidarity.

Respectfully yours,

For Alexander Kirk
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim



Harold H. Tittmann
First Secretary of Embassy

GG/RH/gc

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DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 500.C 112/1236 FOR Tel 336 7pm

FROM Geneva (Gilbert) DATED Sept. 18, 1936.
TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING:

At a private meeting of the Council this afternoon, Avenol gave an exposé of his Rome conversations to the effect that the Italians stated that they will not send a delegation to Geneva with an Ethiopian delegation likewise present.

G

865D.01/167

26.28.01

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

23

SEE 500.C 111/937 FOR Tel 326 noon

FROM Geneva () DATED Sept. 11, 1936.
TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING:

The Argentine Ambassador at Rome advises that Italy agrees to attend the Assembly solely on the condition not only of the elimination of an Abyssinian delegation but on the acceptance by the League of credentials of the Italian delegation emanating from the "King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia". It is believed that this is the chief purpose of Avenol's visit to Rome.

G

865D.01/1158

168

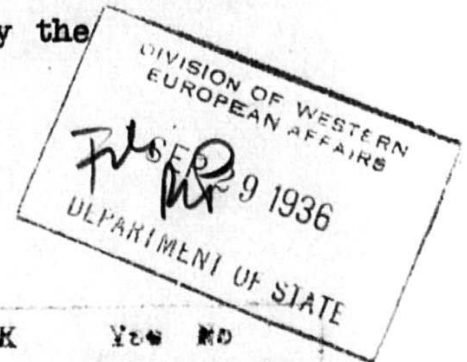
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LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Addis Ababa, August 5, 1936.

No. 163

Subject: Rules for the Natives issued by the
Italian Authorities.



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1936 SEP 28 AM 11 52

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AND RECORDS

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86501.01/169

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A/C/C
SEP 28 1936
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.



Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a translation of a set of "Ten Rules for Ethiopian Subjects" which was published in the Amharic section of the **GIORNALE DI ADDIS ABEBA** of July 18, 1936. These rules were not published in the Italian language.

OCT 2 - 1936

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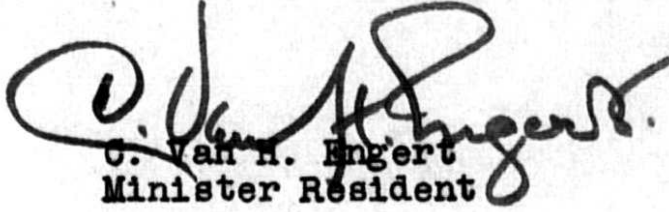
The Legation is forwarding this document principally as a typical illustration of the tone which the Italian authorities have adopted in all their edicts and proclamations to the native population of the country.

The fact that in the present instance ten headings are used has already given rise among the natives to the derisive reference to the document as the "Ten Commandments of Moses Graziani".

Respectfully,

- 2 -

Respectfully yours,


C. Van H. Engert
Minister Resident

File No. 711

CVHE/r1h

✓ Enclosure:

Translation of local newspaper item,
July 18, 1936.

One copy for Embassy at Rome.

Enclosure to despatch No. 163, dated August 5, 1936,
from the American Legation at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

(Translated from the Amharic section of *Giornale di*
Addis Abeba, July 18, 1936.)

TEN RULES FOR ETHIOPIAN SUBJECTS.

I

The Emperor of Ethiopia and the powerful King of Italy, Vittorio Emanuele III, belongs to the honorable Savoia dynasty.

All are obliged to completely submit to and trust in the King.

II

The Duce of the Fascists and the Leader of all Italy is Benito Mussolini. He wishes that Ethiopia may prosper and obtain the ancient Roman civilization and live a useful life under the shadow of the Littorio and the victorious flag of Italy.

III

The Governor General of the Ethiopian people is the King's Viceroy. He is the representative of the King of Italy and the Emperor of Ethiopia. He has full authority, including legislative. No one should violate these laws. All violations will be severely punished. Those who expect generosity from the Viceroy must always show complete trust and full respect.

IV

Those who respect the law and keep the regulations and who in all matters show full confidence in the Viceroy will receive happiness and sympathy from the Viceroy.

V

All orders should be carried out willingly and without evasion.

VI

To prove your confidence in the Viceregal Government you should like work, respect religion, and take an interest in the family.

VII

The Viceregal Government will be founded according to the new laws of Fascism which rules over great and powerful Italy. Fascism means united force and work. Fascism protects the people and raises it and teaches useful work and decent living.

VIII

The symbol of Fascism is the Littorio. This symbol is the undying emblem of ancient civilized Rome, the capital of the world. The respect which is given to the tricolor flag should also be given to this emblem.

IX

IX

Youth of Ethiopia ! You should become strong and powerful workers and good Ethiopians and should unite around the Littorio.

X

Fascist Italy is generous and kind towards her loyal subjects. But against her opponents she is inexorable and ruthless.

MIBG

~~FD~~

you might send Sugart
a telegram referring to
parliament paragraph 7
his despatch & quote
and sentence of Rome's

779.

Ken

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

MHA

10720

In view of Tel #229 from
Rome (on Top) there
would appear to be no
objection in transmitting a
copy of Enver's despatch
to Rome. Should we
send a copy of the Tel
to Ankara?

gpd

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

J.D. [unclear] might
October 1, 1936.
PHA [unclear] they show the
WSM [unclear]

A high Italian officer, in referring to the withdrawal of the German Legation from Addis Ababa, informed the Minister that this was the "second official step" in recognition of the Italian annexation and intimated that the first was implied by the fact that the credentials of the Austrian Minister had been addressed to the "King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia".

It will be recalled that the Embassy at Rome reported on June 22 that the letters of credence of the new Austrian and other Ministers had been addressed to the "King of Italy" but had been accepted in the name of the King and Emperor.

The Minister suggests that the Department may wish informally to verify the statement of the Italian official.

Do you believe that we might send a copy of the despatch to Rome and ask for its comments?

JJD



LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

August 7, 1936.

No. 165.

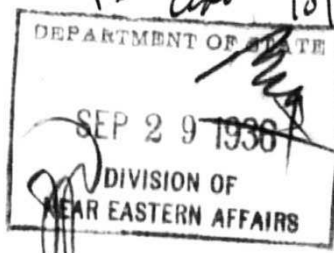
Subject: German Legation in Addis Ababa to become a
Consulate General.



DISTRIBUTION - CHECK Yes No

To the Field ☐

In U. S. A. ☐



OCT 22 1936

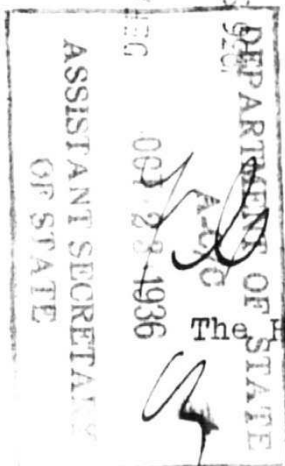
The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Referring to the Legation's telegram No. 491 of
July 26th in which I reported that the German Government
had announced its intention of changing the status of its
Legation here to that of a Consulate General, I have the
honor to quote below in translation a paragraph which
appeared in the GIORNALE DI ADDIS ABEBA of July 26, 1936,

under

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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Telegram to Addis
10/21/36
MBG/LS

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961 27 130
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under the caption " Recognition of Italian Sovereignty ". After referring to the abolition of the German Legation it proceeds:

" With this first recognition of the Italian Empire the German Legation has completed its attitude of neutrality which it had maintained throughout the Italo-Ethiopian conflict, and has given a fresh proof of friendship towards Italy. It has also set an example to Europe for the definitive recognition of the fait accompli in Ethiopia. "

An editorial along the same lines by Virginio Gayda appeared also in the GIORNALE D'ITALIA (Rome) of July 26, 1936.

Incidentally, in mentioning the German decision to me a high Italian officer spoke of it as the " second official step " signifying recognition of the Italian annexation that had been taken. When I asked him whether he meant the recognition by San Marino as the first, he said that that hardly counted, but what he had in mind was the recognition by the Austrian Government. I then remembered the Department's telegrams (Nos. 236, ^{765.84/4430} May 16, 1 p.m., and 238, ^{765.84/4456a} May 18, 6 p.m.) on the subject and inquired whether there had not been a misunderstanding about it as the newspaper report seemed to have been later denied. But my informant replied that while there had not been a formal announcement of recognition, it had been implied by the fact that when the Austrian Minister to Italy presented his credentials King Victor Emmanuel had been addressed as " King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia".

In view of the Department's telegram No. 234, ^{701.6511/818b cr} of June 23, 5 p.m. in the second paragraph of which a report from the Embassy in Rome is referred to regarding

the

the letters of credence of the Austrian and other Ministers, the Department may wish informally to verify the statement of the Italian official.

Respectfully yours,


S. Van H. Engert
Minister Resident

File No. 701/702.

CVHE/ast

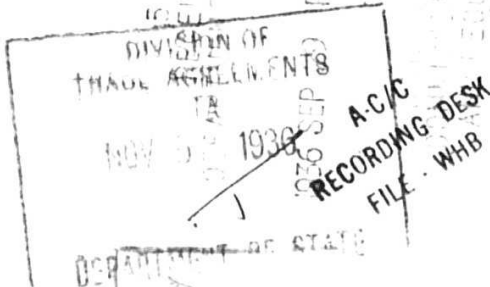
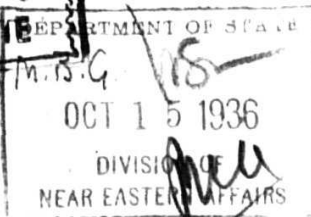
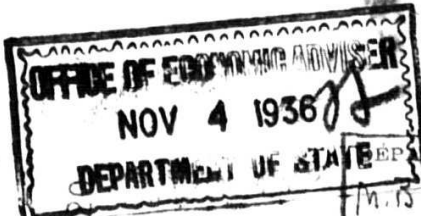
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EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ROME, September 16, 1936.

No. 1889

Subject: Italian Administration and Development of
Ethiopia.



1 to MID
Excerpt to Comm (From "Bail of Rome", p. 10
through "Aviation", p. 12)

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

With reference to my despatch No. 1863 of September 2, 1936, regarding the Italian Administration and Development of Ethiopia, I have the honor to submit below a digest of information published here since September 2 with regard to Italian action and plans for the government and exploitation of the conquered territory.

Military and Political.

The proposed creation of a permanent Colonial Army, mentioned on page 3 of my despatch No. 1852 of August 28 (Italian Military Activities), has come nearer realization by the approval of the Council of Ministers

on

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on September 12 (see my telegram No. 371 of same date) of a draft decree-law providing for the reorganization of the Italian armed forces in East Africa. It is said that separate measures affecting the air forces and the land units of the Navy will be presented at a later date. According to the press account, the new law contemplates an army of some 65,000 men, about 40,000 of whom will be native troops. White troops will be known as "African Detachments" and native units, commanded by white officers, are to be called "Colonial Detachments," it is said, apparently in an effort to avoid the use of the word "native." The press stresses the importance of building up a trained white officer personnel which will make a career of colonial service. Native enrolment is to be on a voluntary basis and the units will have their headquarters in the region in which they are recruited. It is expected that this system will result in the native battalions becoming a useful instrument in furthering the Italians in their task of civilizing and colonizing the country. It is stated that the white troops are intended to constitute a special reserve at the disposal of each of the five provincial governments of Ethiopia. The enrolment of both officers and men is to be voluntary. It is said that the strength of the white forces will be fixed at nine mechanized battalions of Black Shirts, supported by four groups of mechanized artillery, four anti-aircraft groups, and seven companies of miscellaneous troops. A new division of Guards is also to be formed, to be known as the "Guards of the Empire" and will be garrisoned at Addis Ababa.

In addition to the colonial army mentioned above, a colonial militia is provided for which will include all of the laborers and able-bodied colonists in East

Africa

NPL

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone (A)

Addis Ababa via N.R.

Dated April 29, 1936

Rec'd 7:22 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

250, April 29, 3 p.m.

CONFIDENTIAL

My 231, April 22, 5 p.m.

Government will probably leave tomorrow afternoon for Lekempti some 150 miles due west of here. Latest reports indicate Italians may occupy Addis Ababa about May 3, provided they meet with no resistance. Small Ethiopian forces believed still holding certain strategic positions about eighty miles north of the capital.

The Government will be accompanied by Spencer (See my 13, January 7) and by Dr. and Mrs. Lambie (See my 171, November 14).

ENGERT

NPL:SMS

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Africa who will be trained for military service in case of need. It is expected that this force will number about 150,000 men, 100,000 of whom will be laborers.

The Military Attaché to this Embassy is of the opinion that the Italian armed forces now in Africa cannot be reduced to the level envisaged in the draft decree-law described above for two or three years, depending upon how rapidly the task of pacifying and policing the conquered territory progresses.

The press of September 6 announces the departure from Addis Ababa of a motorized column composed of mixed Italian, Eritrean, and loyal Ethiopian troops. Neither the strength of the column nor its precise objective is disclosed, although it is admitted that it will advance into Western Ethiopia. Among foreign press correspondents it is generally assumed that its destination is Gore where an alleged Ethiopian government is still said to exist and which, in any case, is the capital of a region which has never been effectively subdued. In commenting on the departure of this column, the press points out that it is merely the forerunner of the campaign which may be expected to begin at the end of the rainy season when cleaning up operations can be undertaken in earnest. In the meantime the press reports the continued submission of chiefs and tribes to Italian authority, especial emphasis being placed on the submission of the important monastery of Zuguala, which was called an event of considerable significance.

The press describes the ceremony at Addis Ababa, in the presence of the "Viceroy" and H. R. H. the Duke of Ancona, in connection with the blessing of the standard of the Alpine troops stationed in the capital. All of the
other

other troops making up the Addis Ababa garrison participated in the ceremony which was described as being impressive. Marshal Graziani made a patriotic address at the close of the ceremonies, to which the troops responded with cheers for the "King Emperor" and the Duce. With regard to the visit of Selassie Gugsa to Rome, mentioned in my last despatch, the press reports that the Ministry of Colonies has conferred the Order of Knight of the Grand Cross of the Star of Italy upon him.

With regard to the health of the troops in East Africa, an official communiqué states that sanitary conditions in East Africa continue to be of the best and that the rate of mortality is only slightly higher than that which prevails in the Army at home. The communiqué adds that these comforting statistics should in the future show progressive improvement as the sanitary and hygienic organization under Italian direction is extended and perfected. The press also asserts that from January 1, 1935 until September 1, 1936, a total of only 665 laborers died out of an average total on hand of 97,017.

Government General.

According to an official communiqué, the Council of Ministers at its meeting on September 12 approved the draft of a decree, submitted by the Minister of Colonies, for the administrative organization of Italian East Africa. The press reports that this decree, which has not yet been published, will regulate in detail the powers and duties of the various organs of the government. Native chiefs are to be placed under the jurisdiction of Residencies; several Residencies are to be grouped together under a

Commissariat;

Commissariat; and the Commissariats are to be responsible to the Government General. It is said that the decree also regulates the organization of municipalities, including that of Addis Ababa, which, as the capital, will have a special form of government.

The press reports that a decree will shortly be published creating five consultative Councils (Consulta) for Italian East Africa as follows: Agriculture, Industry, Commerce, Transportation, and Labor. These Councils, which will be composed of representatives of the Fascist Party, the appropriate government organs, and the employers and workers concerned, will give opinions on their respective subjects, with regard to Italian East Africa, to the Ministry of Colonies and to private organizations and persons at the request of the Minister of Colonies.

965d.15
By Royal Decree No. 1653 of July 24, 1936, published in the Official Gazette of September 14, 1936, a Superior Technical Committee is established in Italian East Africa to control the construction of public works which are recognized as of general interest by decree of the Minister of Colonies. The Committee is composed of the following members: the Vice Governor General, chairman; one President of a Section of the Superior Council of Public Works, appointed by the Minister of Colonies at the instance of the Minister of Public Works; one Superior Director of the Government General; the chiefs of the civil or military technical services who may be appointed to participate by decree of the Governor General; the chief of the accounting office of the Government General; and one official of the Colonial Service not lower than the 9th class, who serves as Secretary of the Committee.

The

The Council of Ministers on September 12 approved the draft of a decree-law to create a General Council for Urban Building and City Planning in Italian East Africa and local Councils under its jurisdiction for each of the "governments" of Italian East Africa, for the purpose of controlling plans for cities and urban buildings from an artistic point of view.

Reconstruction of Addis Ababa.

865d, 101
The press on September 3 gave great publicity to the plan drawn up by the Technical Commission of the Government of Rome for the reconstruction of Addis Ababa. According to the plan, a large square will be created in the center of the city between the old and new "ghebis" of the Negus. The principal government buildings and a high tower, to be called the "Torre Littoria," are to be constructed around this square. A short, wide passage running east from the tower will lead to the Viceregal Palace. An avenue running west from the tower will pass over a 220 meter cement viaduct across the Gamelé valley and the Via Makonnen and lead to the hill on which the Church of St. George is located. Another avenue running north and south through the square will lead to another square south of the tower, on which the new Catholic Cathedral will be constructed. A number of smaller roads will divide the center of the city into blocks.

The houses of the native population are to be strictly confined to a district west of the Gamelé river. This district may be divided up according to the races and religions of the natives.

The European section of Addis Ababa will be divided into various zones. There will be a zone for the rich

(classi

(classi signorili), a zone for the well-to-do, a zone for the laborers, a zone for the military, etc. There will also be a zone for factories, a zone for hospitals, and a zone for sports on which a stadium will be constructed.

In order that the architecture will be harmonious, shops on the main avenues must have porticoes and generally must not have more than two floors above the porticoes, although some exceptions will be made to prevent a monotony of horizontal lines. It is reported that the plan of Addis Ababa provides generous space for expansion, and for parks which will make the Ethiopian capital a "garden city."

Justice.

865d.04
The press reports that the Civil Court of Addis Ababa was inaugurated on September 7 in the presence of all the magistrates and lawyers residing in the Ethiopian capital. At the opening ceremonies the Public Prosecutor, Commendatore Magi, after thanking the Justices for their cooperation in organizing the judicial system, declared that the administration of justice was one of the highest affirmations of sovereignty in a conquered and annexed country, that only backward peoples would submit to the shame of mixed courts and the system of capitulations, and that "as soon as they reached a greater degree of civilization they struggled desperately to free themselves from these primitive and mortifying forms which were in force during the Empire of the Negus." Telegrams of greeting were then sent to the Viceroy, Marshals De Bono, and Badoglio, and the members of the Military Court. The magistrates donned their robes and the lawyers their black shirts, and the

Civil Court, under the presidency of Commendatore Mancinelli, was declared formally opened. This court will try cases between Europeans and between Europeans and natives. Cases in which only natives are involved will be tried by a special court for natives, composed of colonial officials.

Labor.

8656.504
The Stefani Agency reports that on September 7 the Viceroy reviewed 1,200 Italian workers at Addis Ababa. In a speech on this occasion, he informed them that he fully realized the hardships under which they were living and working and promised that general living conditions would be made much easier for everyone as soon as the rainy season ended and communications by land and sea improved. He went on to say that, although he was wearing the uniform of a Marshal of Italy, he was a man of the common people and had known hunger in his early youth, and was, therefore, fraternally speaking to them as soldiers, Fascists, and laborers who knew the "hard law of human toil." He declared that they had the honor of laying the foundation of the Empire by their sacrifices, which he knew they were not doing for themselves but for their children and descendants, who would be the real beneficiaries of the Empire. He added that the Duce was following their work with the greatest interest, and promised to keep him informed of their sacrifices. In conclusion the Viceroy urged them to practice the "two important virtues of the Italian farmer--frugality and economy."

It appears that every effort is being made to keep the workers contented. The Office of Press and Propaganda in Addis Ababa has recently organized a series of variety shows
for

for Italian soldiers and workers in which the men themselves act, and the Fascist Party is planning to open a cinema in the near future. The head of the Fascist organization in Ethiopia, under orders from the Minister of Colonies, is paying daily visits to the workers "to ensure that they enjoy the maximum of comfort possible under present difficult conditions." In this connection the press asserts that "the workers show great understanding of present difficulties, many of which will be overcome just as soon as the rains end."

The newspapers of September 11 report that from January 1935 to August 31, 1936, the Commissariat for Migration and Colonization has transported 131,086 workers to Italian East Africa, and that after subtracting those who have been repatriated upon the expiration of their labor contracts, there are at present 93,669 workers in the conquered territory. In addition, 6,294 former officers and soldiers have found public and private employment in Ethiopia. Of this number about 2,000, who signed contracts with local firms, have been accorded extraordinary leave of absence pending discharge from the army, and about 3,000 others have been incorporated in the "centuries of workers." In the Scioa district nine ex-soldiers have found permanent occupations as merchants, 117 as employees, and 490 as workers, through the assistance of the Delegation of the Commissariat of Migration.

It is further reported that, in conformity with an agreement reached between the Foreign Minister and the Minister of Colonies, the latter has decreed that, from

October

October 10, 20 per cent of the contingents of workers to be sent to Italian East Africa shall be composed of Italians from abroad, many of whom have lived for a long time in the tropics and have consequently acquired valuable experience for Africa.

In conformity with an agreement with the Ministry of Colonies and the Secretariat of the Fascist Party, the Government General of Ethiopia has decreed that there shall be established, in each of the Federations of the Fascist Party in East Africa, offices to assist Italian workers. These offices shall have representatives of the Commissariat of Migration, of the Mutual Insurance Fund for Industrial Workers of the Federation, of the Social Insurance Institute, of the Directorate for Social Assistance, of the agricultural workers, and of the industrial workers.

Bank of Rome.

865d.516
The temporary office of the Bank of Rome in Addis Ababa was opened on September 3 with elaborate ceremonies in which the Viceroy and high Fascist officials participated.

Commercial and Industrial Development.

865d.6376
Deposits of limestone suitable for the manufacture of cement, are reported to have been discovered about fifty kilometers from Addis Ababa. On September 5 the Committee of Ministers for the Defense of Savings and the Exercise of Credit, under the chairmanship of the Duce, authorized the creation of a cement company to exploit the cement resources of Ethiopia. The principal Italian cement companies are to contribute its capital, which will amount to ten million lire and may be increased to twenty million.

The

The Ministry of Colonies is said to be considering thousands of requests of firms for authorization to do business in Ethiopia. On September 16 it gave out the first list of firms so authorized, comprising 18 manufacturers of building materials and 33 road construction firms. The Ministry at the same time made public a list of 18 road construction firms and 234 commercial firms which have been recommended to the Government General of Italian East Africa.

Colonization.

865d.52
The Council of Ministers at its meeting on September 12 approved the draft of a decree-law to give demobilized Italian veterans of the war with Abyssinia preference in the concession of agricultural land.

COMMUNICATIONS

Automobiles.

865d.797
On September 9, the first consignment of public taxis which are to be sent to Addis Ababa, were blessed by a priest in the Piazza San Pietro, Rome. The taxis, which are of the 515 Fiat type, bearing Addis Ababa number plates, were afterwards driven to Naples for shipment. A regular public taxi service will be inaugurated in the Ethiopian capital on October 1.

Railroads.

865d.77
The Addis Ababa-Djibouti railway company is reported to have ordered private railway cars for the "King Emperor," the Duce, and the Viceroy, from Italy.

Repairs are being made to the tracks and curves are being re-enforced, in order that express trains, beginning

on

on October 1, may cover the distance between Djibouti and Addis Ababa in twenty-seven hours instead of three days. It is said that when railway equipment ordered in Italy arrives, this time will be further cut down to twenty-four hours.

Roads.

865d.154
The press reports that 530 kilometers of road have been opened in the Sidamo district, connecting Malca Guba, Mega, Moyale, Igo, Dubuluk, Iavello, and Agheremariam. As soon as the rainy season ends, work will be begun on the road between Addis Ababa and Dessie.

Aviation.

865d.796
On September 7 three airplanes belonging to the National Aeronautical Company of Rome, left Rome, flying in formation, for Addis Ababa, where they will be used in a civilian passenger service. They are of the tri-motor "Ca 133" type, which, it is said, were found very suitable for Ethiopia during the Abyssinian war.

FOREIGN DIPLOMATS

With reference to my despatch No. 1863 of September 2 reporting the visit of the former German Minister at Addis Ababa to the Fascist headquarters there, I have the honor to inform the Department that, according to news despatches from Addis Ababa, the former French Minister, M. Bodard, paid a similar visit on September 9. Although he does not appear to have made a speech, like the German Minister, he is reported to have expressed great admiration of the Fascist activities in Ethiopia.

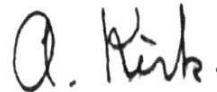
FOREIGN COMMERCIAL INTERESTS

The Franco-Ethiopian Salt Company, with headquarters
in

in Djibouti, has warned the public against buying the company's shares numbered from one to four thousand, which, it declares, "were stolen by persons who were members of the former Ethiopian Government."

The Franco-Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce of Djibouti on September 3 renewed a resolution, passed some time ago, expressing its desire that Italy be accorded a free port at Djibouti. In reporting this resolution the Italian press congratulated the Chamber of Commerce on its realistic and far-sighted attitude, since the prosperity of the city was dependent on the railway to Addis Ababa and unless favorable conditions were accorded, traffic would be diverted by Italy to other channels.

Respectfully yours,



Alexander Kirk
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

GG/RH/gc

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172

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 765.84/5065 FOR Despatch #1849 Political

FROM Geneva (Gilbert) DATED September 29, 1936.
TO NAME 1-1127

REGARDING: Conditions in Non-Italian Ethiopia. Transmits British and Ethiopian communication to the League concerning-

wth

865D.01/172

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 384.11/209 FOR Tel.578, 10 a.m.

FROM Ethiopia (Engert) DATED Oct.9, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127

REGARDING: Government in Ethiopia.

Quotes letter from Pipgrass, American missionary at Jimma, stating that there is still a government there and it is functioning. If the Amharic Government breaks down the Galla Government remains.

865D.01/173

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 701.6511/841 FOR Letter

FROM G. Ashton Oldham () DATED Oct. 10, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 870

REGARDING:

Recognition King of Italy as Emperor of Ethiopia:
Inquiry pertinent thereto with special reference to
arrival new Italian Ambassador to US.

M ✓

865D.01/ 174

174



LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Addis Ababa, September 2, 1936.

No. 175

Subject: German Chargé d'Affaires visits "Casa del
Fascio" and makes a Speech.



FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK Yes No

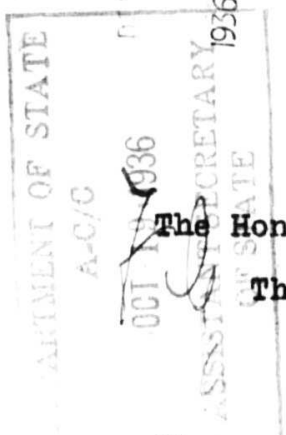
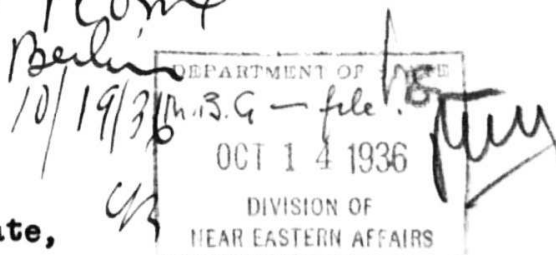
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In U. S. A. ☐

Copy for Embassy - Berlin

Embassy - Rome

Copy Transmitted by The
Commercial Office (A-C/O)
To Rome



The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

Referring to the Legation's despatch No. 165 of August 7, 1936, I have the honor to report that the German Chargé d'Affaires, Dr. G. Strohm, on August 26, 1936, made a formal call at the "Casa del Fascio", the Fascist headquarters in Addis Ababa, where he was received by the "Segretario Federale", Signor Guido Cortese, and all other Fascist notables, as well as Italian directors of schools and charitable organizations and similar institutions.

Signor

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Signor Cortese read a prepared address in which he thanked the German Chargé for his visit, which "confirms the sympathy which Germany has shown for the Italian victory in Africa". After speaking of this victory as due, above all, "to the will of the Duce", he continued:

"The Italians of Fascist Italy have a good memory and they will never forget either the demonstration of sympathy of the New Germany for the Italian victory, or the attitude which Germany took with regard to that economic and political absurdity, the iniquitous sanctions. The Italian and German peoples have both found in the Fascist idea a brilliant avenue to the future, and Fascism represents in a distracted Europe the great pillar upon which sane and vigorous people are leaning in order to assure their future."

Dr. Strohm replied, likewise with a prepared speech, and I am quoting below the most striking passages from it:

"Germany has followed with much interest the glorious campaign of the Italian forces in Abyssinia because as National-Socialists we know that great historic events are the result of great changes in the mentality of a people. We know that the Italian victory is a victory of the Fascist idea. Just as you have conquered this country by means of the Fascist idea, so you will build it up by Fascist methods."

"Nationalist Germany had followed with the greatest interest the Fascist march on Rome and will with renewed interest in and with the most lively sympathy follow Fascist labors for the erection of the Empire. I can assure you that the Germans who live in Abyssinia are admirers of Fascism and of its great Duce. They will be happy to observe closely the efforts of Fascism, and to help wherever it may be possible the stupendous undertaking with their modest experience."

The texts of both addresses were published in the GIORNALE DI ADDIS ABEBA of August 28, 1936.

There

- 3 -

There can, of course, be no doubt that the entire ceremony took place with the approval - if not at the suggestion - of Rome and Berlin as a public demonstration of Italo-German political solidarity.

Respectfully yours,


G. Van H. Engert
Minister Resident.

File No. 710

CVHE/rlh

Copy for American Embassy, Berlin.
Copy for American Embassy, Rome.



OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADVISER
NOV 9 1936
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ROME, September 30, 1936.

No. 18

Subject: Italian Administration and Development of
Ethiopia.

DIVISION OF WESTERN
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
OCT 14 1936
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AC/C
RECORDING DESK
FILE - 443

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Distribution Instructions
(Marked)
Preamble ("Marked")
Later ("Marked")
OCT 17 1936

DIVISION OF
TRADE AGREEMENTS
OCT 17 1936

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 4 1936
M.B.G.
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

With reference to the Embassy's despatch No. 1889 of
September 16, 1936, regarding the Italian Administration and
Development of Ethiopia, I have the honor to submit below a
digest of information published here since September 16th
with regard to Italian action and plans for the government
and exploitation of the conquered territory.

Military and Political.

A Stefani despatch from Addis Ababa on September 19th
announces the continued military preparations of the Italians
in Ethiopia in anticipation of the end of the rainy season.
It is predicted that the various zones of the former Ethio-
pian Empire which are still infested with rebels and brigands
will quickly be brought under control. With regard to condi-
tions at Gore, the rumored destination of a punitive expedition
mentioned

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mentioned on page 3 of the Embassy's last despatch, the press has given prominence to the announcement of the closing of the British Consulate there and to Eden's note to the League explaining this step, in which the state of anarchy existing in the territory not yet occupied by the Italians was revealed. It is pointed out that this act of the British constitutes the final proof of the non-existence of any effective Ethiopian "government" in that region.

The press has published a more amplified account of the plan to enrol laborers into a colonial militia (see page 2 of the Embassy's last despatch). Each provincial government will have a "Command of Legions." The legions will be composed of units of 3,000 men called "Cohorts." The legions will be, in all matters pertaining to discipline, responsible to the local colonial government. Officers and non-commissioned officers will be selected from among the laborers eligible for membership in the regular black shirt militia. It is said that the labor legions will be instructed in everything relating to the upholding of law and the sanctity of contracts, as well as in the maintenance of discipline and order. Laborers engaged in road construction behind the lines of advancing troops may be called upon to join in the fighting, and the soldiers and Black Shirts, on the other hand, are expected to assist with road building when there is no fighting to be done.

Continued acts of submission on the part of the chiefs and populations to Italian authority "in all parts of the Empire" are reported by the press. Notable among the chiefs who have recently submitted are Cheremaccio Tecclé, Hevariate, son of the ex-Ethiopian Minister to Paris and delegate to the League of Nations, and Wolde Mariam, the succeeding Ethiopian Minister to Paris, who swore an oath of allegiance to Italy

before

765.84

before the Italian Ambassador in Paris. Mariam was subsequently reported to have arrived in Italy with all his family. The "Afnegus" Atnafi, with 40 followers, 39 rifles, and 4 machineguns, is also reported to have been among those swearing allegiance to the Italians, together with several chiefs of Ras Imaru.

The annual feast of Mascal at Addis Ababa was made the occasion for impressive ceremonies and patriotic speech-making in the presence of His Royal Highness the Duke of Ancona, high civil and military officials of the colonial government as well as the "ex-ministers of France, and Germany and the personnel of the ex-legations." The principal ceremony was the awarding of 600 decorations and 400 promotions among the Eritrean troops, veterans of the Ethiopian campaign. Ten thousand of these troops, both mounted and foot, were described as being massed in the hippodrome. Marshal Graziani arrived on horseback, followed by 50 white officers and an escort of picked Eritrean cavalry, and proceeded to review the troops and award the decorations. The head of the Coptic Church was also reported to have availed himself of this occasion to reassert publicly his devotion and the loyalty of his following to the Italian rule.

Economic and Industrial Development.

The Consultative Councils of Agriculture, Industry, Commerce, Transportation, and Labor, for Italian East Africa (Embassy's despatch No. 1889 of September 16th, 1936) were formally inaugurated in the Ministry of Colonies on September 25th in the presence of high government and Fascist officials. Signor Lessona, the Minister of Colonies, addressing the five Councils, said that these Councils marked the end of the iniquitous feudal system in Ethiopia and further asserted that the Fascist policy of controlled and disciplined economy was infinitely

infinitely superior to the Liberal doctrine of private initiative. Signor Lessona stated that the guiding principles of Italian Colonial policy were three: (1) to create in Italian East Africa a limited but necessary autonomy; (2) to integrate the production of the Mother Country; and (3) to export the produce of the Empire abroad with a view to capturing foreign markets. An English translation of the Minister's speech is enclosed for the Department's information.

865d.52 source

The following statements regarding Italian plans for Ethiopia were made in an interview with a representative of the DEPECHE COLONIAL by the Minister of Colonies, and reprinted in the Italian press on September 30th. After asserting that Italy would respect the rights of the natives in the conquered territory, Signor Lessona said "In a territory so vast and with such a sparse population, there is not lacking vacant land, the alleged rights to which are so vague that they may be considered undefinable.... Other land will become available - that abandoned by the Negus and the Rases who fled. As for Italian labor, it may be said that the whole plateau is suitable. The first experiments will be made in the territory of Addis Ababa. Asmara and Harrar also present favorable conditions, and Gimma, for certain occupations, will lend itself to interesting experiments." With regard to the government of the natives, the Minister declared "We do not intend to extend to the natives metropolitan legislation and civil equality, which, moreover, they would not understand or desire. We have given them greater and greater assistance in sanitary, social, and educational fields." After referring to the recent agreement between the Italian authorities and the Djibouti Railway Company (Embassy's despatch No. 1823 of August 5, 1936), Signor Lessona said "The capacities of the port and railway

railway of Djibouti have proved insufficient for the new traffic; merchandise piles up and must wait a long time. The systematization of the Port of Assab and the road to Dessié, envisaged in the agreement of 1928, will remedy this abnormal situation."

Commerce

The Mission of the National Council of Research, composed of Dr. Molinari, Dr. Guzzoni, and Dr. Larotanda (Embassy's despatch No. 1797 of July 22, 1936, page 18), arrived in Addis Ababa on September 24th. It is reported that this Mission will make studies of technical and economic problems involved in the development of the "Empire," reorganize inefficiently operated industries, encourage the establishment of new industries, and construct chemical laboratories in Addis Ababa for the study of geological specimens found by various expeditions in Ethiopia.

The press announces that Signor Lessona, the Minister of Colonies, accompanied by the higher officials of his Ministry, will sail for Italian East Africa on October 3rd. In addition to Addis Ababa, he will visit the Governments of Harrar, Amhara, Somaliland, Galla Sidamo, and Eritrea. It is also announced that Signor Cobolli Gigli, the Minister of Public Works, will proceed to Ethiopia on October 3rd to inspect the work already begun on roads there.

Labor.

865d.504
Lotia

The press continues to report measures taken to improve the working conditions of Italian laborers in East Africa. According to the Stefani Agency, the Viceroy, having received complaints from some workers that they had not been paid by their employers pending the settlement of claims of these employers against government bodies, gave orders that they be paid immediately, regardless of such claims.

The

The Minister of Finance has announced that wages of workers in Italian East Africa will be exempt from payment of the income tax.

The Duce recently sent the Viceroy a telegram ordering that wages of all Italian workers in East Africa be increased one lira per hour from October 1st.

It is reported that the Government General is planning to abolish the stay at Massaua of Italian workmen coming from Italy and transport them directly, from Massaua to Decameré where large modern barracks will be constructed. From this concentration center they will be sent, in accordance with labor requirements, to Dessié, Gondar, Debra Tabor, and Keren, where barracks will also be erected.

According to the latest figures, published on September 26th, the Commissariat for Migration has found employment in Italian East Africa for 8250 Italian veterans of the Italo-Abyssinian war, who are distributed as follows: Eritrea 5590, Italian Somaliland 1799, Harrar 96, and Sciré 775.

Export and Import Regulations for Italian East Africa.

The following information regarding import and export regulations for Italian East Africa was given out by the Provincial Council of Corporative Economy of Milan on September 19:

Exportation from Italy and importation into Italian East Africa are free for merchandise of domestic production with the exception of petroleum and its derivatives, mineral lubricating oils, asphalt, and similar products, which are exclusively provided by the A. G. I. P.

For shipping automobile trucks and private automotive vehicles, it is necessary to obtain a special shipping certificate issued by the Ministry of Colonies.

Foreign raw materials temporarily imported into Italy which have undergone complete processing by Italian machinery and labor, may be exported without further formality under their respective temporary import permits and may be imported into the Italian colony without special authorization.

The following regulations govern the importation of merchandise of foreign origin into Italian East Africa:

The importation of any quantity of foreign merchandise, even if paid for and even if shipped from Italy, must be authorized beforehand by the competent Royal Colonial Government, after obtaining the opinion of the appropriate commissions established in Eritrea and Italian Somaliland. The authorizations are usually valid for 90 days.

Whenever there is a request for foreign exchange or the transfer of Italian exchange abroad and whenever the Exchange Commission gives permission for the whole or part of the amount requested, it will authorize the local Bank of Italy to open a credit in favor of the interested party who may draw against it, as a rule, upon presentation of the shipping documents of the merchandise.

The importation of foreign merchandise paid in foreign exchange, will be considered only when it is shown that it is indispensable to the Italian colony and that the production of the same or similar merchandise is lacking or insufficient in Italy.

Permission may, however, be given in the regular way, always with prior authorization for the importation of foreign merchandise, the payment of which is:

(1) effected through one of the clearing agreements in force between Italy and various countries;

(a) regulated by private compensation agreements regularly authorized.

The

The proofs to be furnished in this connection by the interested parties are:

(a) for clearing settlements, the documents issued by the National Institute for Foreign Exchange or by one of the branches of the Bank of Italy, as the representative of the Institute,

(b) for private compensation settlements, the documents issued, as above, by the National Institute for Foreign Exchange or by one of the banks so authorized, namely the Bank of Naples, the Bank of Sicily, the National Bank of Labor, the Italian Commercial Bank, the Creditor Italiano, the Bank of Rome, and the Bank of America and Italy.

The exportation of products from Italian East Africa directly to Italy is completely free, except for certain products on which an export tax is imposed by government ordinance, such as certain types of hides and coffee for which export quotas have been established and assigned to particular companies.

The exportation of products from Italian East Africa to foreign countries, however, is contingent upon the prior deposit in the colonial branches of the Bank of Italy, of the foreign exchange obtained in payment therefor.

Justice.

The press under Addis Ababa date line of September 21 reported that the Court for Natives at Addis Ababa up to then had decided 304 cases involving crimes and misdemeanors and had completed 21 Court of Assizes cases. The Court of Conciliation at Addis Ababa, it declared, had conciliated 240 disputes involving injuries, debts, and contracts. It added that the judicial authorities were engaged in determining with complete impartiality damages suffered by natives during the sack of the Ethiopian capital and the first period of the Italian occupation.

Finance..

8652.04

Commerce

Finance.

The press under Paris date line of September 19th reports that the Italian Embassy in Paris sent the following note to the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

"The Royal Italian Government has learned that so-called representatives of the ex-Empire of Ethiopia are trying to transfer to third parties securities, bonds, loans, etc., and credits of various kinds constituting compensation to the ex-Empire of Ethiopia for concessions and authorizations given at the time by the said ex-Empire to companies and private individuals.

"The Royal Italian Government warns third parties against such attempts and declares that it considers null and void and without any legal basis on account of being done 'a non dominio' all acquisitions of the said securities and rights, effected by the afore-said third parties, and will consider such acquisitions as fraudulent and without effect."

Public Health.

265d, 12
The press reports under Addis Ababa date line of September 24th that a meeting was held under the auspices of the Government General by representatives of the employers' and workmens' organizations, the Fascist Party, the Commissariat for Migration, the Inspectorate General of Public Health, and the "Cassa Mutua di Malattie" (Sickness Insurance Fund), to make regulations for the application of an agreement concluded between the Ministry of Colonies and the Cassa Mutua regarding the administration of medical services to workers in Italian East Africa. It was agreed that the Cassa Mutua should provide these services under the control of the Government and the Inspectorate General of Public Health. It

was also decided to establish well-equipped infirmaries in each workers' camp, eight hospitals between Dessié and Assab; and hospitals at Assab, Gondar, Dire Dawa, Addis Ababa, and Asmara, for the care of sick workers pending their repatriation. The Cassa Mutua agreed to provide an adequate number of automobile ambulances and medical supplies. Legal medical measures are to be enacted by appropriate Commissions composed of representatives of the Civil and Military Inspectorates of Health and the Cassa Mutua, located in the principal hospital centers of the Empire. Such a commission is already in operation and supervising the sanitary conditions of Italian labor in Addis Ababa.

Foreign Diplomats.

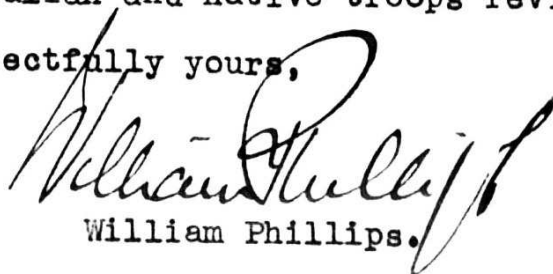
701.4184
The TIMES, London, of September 19th, states that the contingent of Sikh troops which protected the British Legation at Addis Ababa during the Italo-Abyssinian war is to remain in Addis Ababa for the present to safe-guard the lives and interests of British and British-Indian subjects in the capital. It adds that "although for some time Italian troops have been in occupation of Addis Ababa and its communications with the Red Sea and Italian Somaliland, the situation in Abyssinia is not yet stabilized."

The former German Minister to Abyssinia, who recently made a very pro-Italian speech on the occasion of a visit to Fascist headquarters in Addis Ababa (Embassy's despatch No. 1863 of September 2, 1936), is reported to have addressed the German colony at Addis Ababa on September 18th and to have invited its members to continue to reside in Ethiopia, for which he predicted a prosperous future. Germans, he said, should endeavor to develop trade with their mother country through Italy, with which an important clearing agreement existed. He referred to the "spiritual and social ideals" which Italy
and

and Germany have in common and assured the Germans that they would enjoy the sympathy and support of the Italian authorities, which only demanded that foreigners enter into the spirit and manner of life of the Italian Empire.

The press reports that at a military review held in Addis Ababa on September 27th, the former German and French Ministers sat next to the Viceroy in the reviewing-stand and expressed the highest admiration for the Italian and native troops reviewed.

Respectfully yours,



William Phillips.

Enclosure ✓

Translation of
Signor Lessona's speech.

GG/RH/wrm

801.

(IL MESSAGGERO, September 26, 1936)

Translation

Speech of Signor Lessona, the
Minister of Colonies, on
September 25, 1936.

The annexation of Abyssinia and the proclamation of the Empire have given the Ministry of Colonies vast and difficult problems of a political and economic nature.

The infallible judgment of the Duce determined from the beginning the precise and fundamental principles of our imperial policy, proclaiming that no further power would be allowed the "rases" and hence the end of the feudal system in Abyssinia. Our government therefore had to make direct contact with the populations and commence the work of establishing a united bloc of all the populations of Italian East Africa, which, although of different races, traditions, and languages, would find under the common sovereignty of the King Emperor ground for union and prosperity. The basic ordinances of the Empire are in complete conformity with these principles.

In the economic field, everything had to be organized, since the conquered territories had been maintained in a primitive state of brutality through ignorance and lack of initiative, due in large part to a tenacious suspicion of foreigners.

Fascism was thus faced with one of the most difficult trials. What were the duties of the State? What were the duties of private persons? What were the best and most rapid means of carrying them out? What forms of control should be exercised?

Moreover, the Fascist State must also follow in the
field

field of economic activity, a courageous path, even if more difficult and rough, which, through foresight and supervision will overcome the slowness of development by reducing to a minimum the period of experimental uncertainty which has always preceded colonization in our country and in other countries. This method of procedure must save our people many years of labor and will demonstrate to ourselves and to the world the benefit of our system. It is clear that with this line of action there can only be created a controlled and disciplined economy, which, selecting the initiatives and opposing all forms of monopoly except state monopoly, for which higher exigencies prevail, will conduct healthy energies -- and only those -- towards imperial activities.

The criterion of the choice of those who will be called upon to collaborate in the construction of the economic fortunes of the Empire, will be strict but just, in order to avoid the preliminary mistakes which we maintain can be avoided if adventurers, superficial persons, and fly-by-nights, are excluded from participation. Nothing will be begun in any of the fields of agrarian, commercial, or industrial activity in East Africa before accurate studies have been made by serious and competent persons. In this case, however, prudence will be the source of rapidity. The more cautious we are, the sooner and better we will be recompensed for our efforts.

These statements, which are in conformity with the policy of the Fascist Government, will leave no doubt in the minds of those who, beaten at home, might wish to further liberal economic principles in the territory conquered by the valor of our soldiers. These people maintain that private initiative, left to itself, would find the road smoother

even

even if covered with the fallen. I, for my part, refuse to accept this chaotic attack (arrembaggio) in which the most audacious and less scrupulous win, even if less capable, by squandering valuable elements in a disordered struggle. As in war the bravest leader tries to save life, we must also, as far as possible, try to avoid errors which would damage our general economy and breed distrust and discredit. The more victors we have in the struggle to develop the Empire, the more propagandists we give to the imperial cause.

I have spoken of vast and difficult problems, which will be greatest at first and even in opposition to each other, since politics, economics, and military requirements are so interwoven that a solution which satisfies all demands at the same time is most difficult: problems of race, labor, wages, property, public works, which must be settled within a limited time. From this arises the necessity of a definite and unitarian policy in the economic as well as the political field, a policy which must be inspired by the interests of the individual but always subordinate to the higher interests of the Nation. The Empire created by the valor of the people must serve and shall serve the might of the Italian people. The Empire can give prosperity especially if we know how to form a different and higher mentality tuned to imperial principles and inspired with a desire to perfect ourselves as individuals and as a Nation.

The guiding principles for the development (of Ethiopia) are the following:

- (1) To create a limited but necessary autonomy in Italian East Africa;
- (2) To integrate the production of the Mother Country;
- (3) To export products with a view to capturing foreign markets.

It is evident that the first and third objectives involve certain problems which have been discussed since the proclamation of the Empire. For example, should an industrial machine be created in the Empire or should the Empire, on the other hand, be reduced to a huge warehouse to furnish the Mother Country? If we do not put limits to the first alternative, we will see national industry injured. If, on the other hand, we exclusively adopt the second alternative, we will immobilize the Empire in a system condemned by experience. We must find a way which, while favoring the interests of the Mother Country, allows a minimum industrial machine sufficient to satisfy the most urgent and irreducible requirements of the Empire in peace and in war, the harmonious development of the increase of the population and foreign trade. The relations to be established between the Mother Country and the Empire must therefore be precise and carefully planned.

The Councils, which today begin their life and which I have desired as collaborators in order to avail myself of all the resources that the Fascist Corporative State has organized and disciplined and which will certainly lend wise and most valuable assistance to my efforts, are called upon to perfect these relations and improve and increase the returns from the activities which can be created. Our purpose is the highest. To attain it, marching with sure foot and quick step, means to guarantee to the Italian People that prosperity and welfare for which we Fascists have been struggling for fourteen years and from which future generations will particularly benefit. It is a material benefit from which we were too long excluded, but it is also the victory of a great ideal. The Empire is not merely a geographical expression; it is much more and much finer. It is a synthesis of thought,
of

of action, of life, of pride of race, as well as of supremacy and certainty of supremacy. With this faith, by orders of the Duce, I declare inaugurated the Consultative Councils of Agriculture, Industry, Commerce, Transportation, and Labor."

865D.01

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 765.84/5068 FOR Tel. #585, 10 am

FROM Ethiopia (Egert) DATED Oct. 12, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING: Preparations being made to extend Italian occupation west
and southwest of Addis Ababa.

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865D.01 / 177

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 751.50c/96 FOR Despatch #7
FROM France (Bullitt) DATED Oct. 2, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 o p o

REGARDING: Government- Italian East Africa. Statement of M. Alexis Leger,
Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, that in his
opinion, there was no organized government in existence in
Ethiopia.

fp

865D.01/178

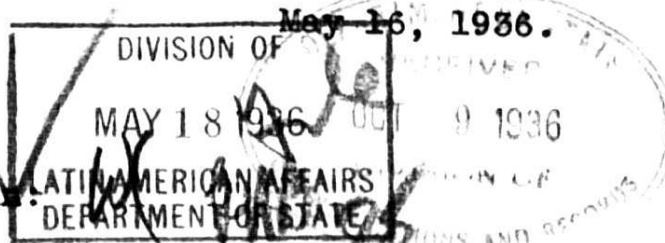
178

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

LA

Mr. Duggan



I think no reply should be sent to this note for the time being.

Will you keep it on hand, however, until some definite decision is reached by the Department as to the attitude it is going to take in this question?

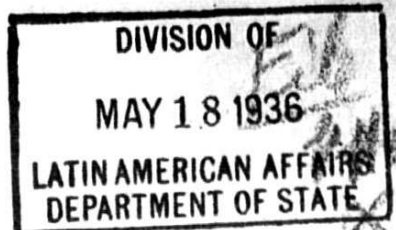
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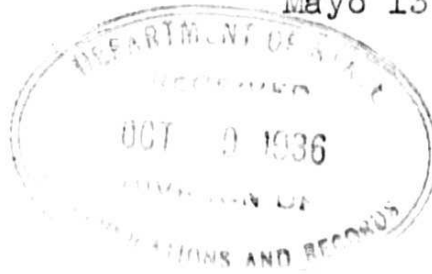
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LEGACION DE COLOMBIA
WASHINGTON, D. C.



No.1188

Mayo 13 de 1936.



Señor Secretario:

Por instrucciones recibidas de mi Gobierno, me es honroso dirigirme a Vuestra Excelencia para ponerle de presente que el Gobierno italiano notificó ayer la anexión de Etiopia a Italia y la concesión del título de Emperador al Rey de los italianos Su Majestad Victor Manuel III.

Como en la declaración firmada en Washington el 3 de Agosto de 1932 y en el artículo II del Pacto Antibélico de no Agresión y Conciliación de Rio de Janeiro de 1933 las Naciones Americanas signatarias declararon que no reconocerán la validez de la ocupación o adquisición de territorios que sea lograda por la fuerza de las armas, mi Gobierno me instruye para invitar a la Secretaría de Estado a dar una respuesta conjunta

A Su Excelencia el señor Cordell Hall,
Secretario de Estado,
Washington, D. C.

865D.01/179

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LEGACION DE COLOMBIA
WASHINGTON, D. C.

-2-

ta conjunta, o a lo menos uniforme, a la notificación italiana, en que se desconozca la anexión que ha sido comunicada y se mantengan vivos los principios americanos que constan en los acuerdos transcritos.

Quiero valerme de esta oportunidad para reiterar a Vuestra Excelencia las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.



Alberto Vargas Narino,
Encargado de Negocios ad-interim.

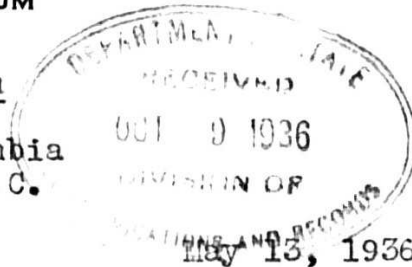
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF LATIN-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
MEMORANDUM

Translation

Legation of Colombia
Washington, D.C.

No. 1188



Mr. Secretary:

Acting under instructions received from my Government, I have the honor to address Your Excellency in order to call to your attention that the Italian Government yesterday notified the annexation of Ethiopia to Italy and the grant of title of Emperor to the King of the Italians, His Majesty Victor Emanuel III.

Since in the declaration signed at Washington on August 3, 1932 and in Article II of the Anti-war Pact of non-Aggression and Conciliation of Rio de Janeiro of 1933, the signatory American nations declared that they will not recognize the validity of occupation or acquisition of territories which may be attained by force of arms, my Government instructs me to invite the Secretary of State to make a joint reply, or at least a uniform one, to the Italian notification, in which the annexation that has been made known shall not be recognized and in which there shall be kept alive the American principles set forth in the agreements transcribed.

11-179
MAY 13 1936
FIVE

I avail, etc.

(Signed) A. Vargas
Alberto Vargas Mariño
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 762.65/235 FOR Tel. 429- 6pm
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FROM Italy (..... Phillips) DATED Oct. 24, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 o p o

REGARDING: Government- Italian East Africa. Germany's recognition of the
Ethiopian Empire removes all question and controversy between the
two countries and sets a precedent on which Italy will judge
the attitude of other countries.

fp

8650.01/180

170

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 762.65/240 FOR Tel. 314- 1pm

FROM Germany (Dodd) DATED Oct. 26, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 o p o

REGARDING:

Government- Italian East Africa. The Führer was determined to recognize the Italian empire of Ethiopia.

fp

365D.01/ 181

181

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 762.65/233 FOR Tel. 428- 1pm

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED Oct. 24, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 ope

REGARDING: Government- Italian East Africa. Official communique issued this morning stating that the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs was received today by Hitler who informed Ciano that Germany had proceeded to the formal recognition of Italian Empire of Ethiopia.

fp

865D.01/182

182

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GRAY

Rome

Dated October 24, 1936

Rec'd 9:12 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

428, October 24, 1 p.m.

notes
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An official communique issued this morning states that the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs was received today by Hitler who informed Ciano that Germany had proceeded to the formal recognition of the Italian Empire of Ethiopia. Ciano took note of this communication and expressed the satisfaction and appreciation of the Fascist Government.

76265222

PHILLIPS

KLP

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 762.65/239 FOR Tel. 432- noon

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED Oct. 26, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 o.o.

REGARDING: Government- Italian East Africa. Italo- German commercial relations with regard to Ethiopia have been regulated and various questions still pending, will be settled satisfactorily.

fp

8657.01/183

183

LMS

GRAY

Rome

Dated October 26, 1936

Rec'd 11:50 a. m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

432, October 26, noon.

My 431, October 25, 11 a. m.

According to the noon newspapers Ciano yesterday stated to correspondents in Munich that a proces verbale of the Italo-German conversations covering the following six points had been signed: Ethiopia, Locarno, League, Danube, Spanish situation, menace to the social structure of Europe. The following is a summary of Ciano's statements illustrating these points as published here.

The exhaustive conversations with Neurath and Hitler had brought out more clearly the resolve of the two governments to cooperate for peace and reconstruction not only on the basis of their own interests but in fulfillment of their task of defending European institutions. As to Locarno both governments had replied to the British memorandum and had stressed their determination to cooperate in establishing "conditions for security such as might result from a guarantee pact for Western Europe". Various aspects of the League question had also been discussed with Neurath.

The

LMS 2-No. 432, October 26, noon, from Rome.

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752 61
The two governments would continue to keep in close and friendly contact. The Danubian question had been examined in the light of the Rome protocols and the Austro-German accord and the practical results resulting to the benefit of Austria from the policy of the two countries had been noted with mutual satisfaction. The two governments would deal with Danubian problems in a spirit of friendly comprehension. As to Spain they were agreed in recognizing that Franco's government was firmly supported by the people in the greater part of Spanish territory where it had restored order and discipline in the place of anarchy. At the same time they confirmed the principle of nonintervention and their respect for international obligations assumed in that sense. They naturally agreed that Italy and Germany desired only to see Spain "in her absolute national and colonial integrity " resume the great international rank to which she was entitled.

With regard to the grave and menacing European social structure the three statesmen had affirmed the determination of their respective peoples to defend the family and national institutions to which ^(they?) there were devoted. In that spirit the two Foreign Ministers had decided to intensify Italo-German cultural relations and immediately after Ciano's return

162. 4276 ✓
LMS 3-No. 432, October 26, noon, from Rome.

return to Rome conversations would begin for the conclusion of a cultural agreement.

865d. 01
Hitler's decision to recognize the Empire of Ethiopia had been received with gratification. Italo-German commercial relations with regard to Ethiopia had been regulated and the various questions still pending would be settled satisfactorily to them both.

Ciano expressed the greatest admiration for Nazi Germany and Hitler and said the cordial cooperation of the two governments for European peace and reconstruction would be continued at Rome and Berlin with the same spirit and determination as during the last few days.

Ciano accompanied by the German Ambassador returned to Rome yesterday afternoon.

PHILLIPS

CSB

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 762.65/241 FOR Tel. 434- 11am

FROM Italy (..... Phillips) DATED Oct. 27, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 o p o

REGARDING: Government- Italian East Africa . For her recognition of Ethiopia, Germany asked no compensation but Ciano insisted on immediately extending the Italo- German Treaty of Commerce to Ethiopia.

fp.

8650.01/184

184

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

1-1336

LMS



FROM

GRAY

Addis Ababa

Dated October 29, 1936

Rec'd 2:40 p. m.



Secretary of State,

Washington.

622, October 29, 3 p. m.

Marshal Graziani yesterday made a ceremonial call on the "ex-charge d'affaires" of Germany to express appreciation of Germany's recognition of the annexation.

ENGERT

CSB

865D.01/185

OCT 31 1936

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TELEGRAM RECEIVED

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1-1896

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (B)

TO 01 FROM

Budapest (Part Air)
London

Dated October 28, 1936

Secretary of State

Washington

53, October 28, 5 p.m.

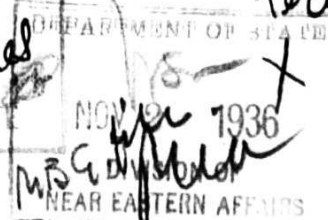
Foreign Minister informed me today that during Schmidt's visit recognition of Italian sovereignty in Ethiopia and Spanish situation had been discussed, and that he, the Foreign Minister, expected Hungary and Austria to follow Germany's action regarding Ethiopia and whatever action Germany and Italy take regarding Spain.

MONTGOMERY

RR:WVC



Rec'd 6:42 a.m., 30th



1936
Tel. Room
C. C. C. C. C.
10/28/36
MBG/15

865D. 01 / 186

NOV 7 1936
FILED
FP

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

11/4-4:00
11/5-10:05
TO BE TRANSMITTED
CONFIDENTIAL CODE ✓
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PARTAIR
PLAIN

Collect

Charge Department

OR

Charge to

\$

Department of State

Washington,

This cable was sent in confidential code.
It should be carefully paraphrased before
being communicated to anyone. (a)

1936 NOV 6 PM 2 41

November 6, 1936.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

VIA NAVAL RADIO

3 PM

AMLEGATION,

ADDIS ABABA (ETHIOPIA).

384
Telegram from 'American Minister' at 'Budapest',
dated 'October 28', 1936, states that 'Hungarian Foreign
Minister' expects 'Hungary' and 'Austria' to follow 'Germany'
in 'recognizing' 'Italian' sovereignty in 'Ethiopia.'

Shull
(12 min)

NE MBG/LS

MBG

865D.01/186

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RW

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

1936 NOV 6 PM 3 12

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ M., _____, 19____

865D.01/186

GMB

10/29-4130

TELEGRAM SENT

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TO BE TRANSMITTED
CONFIDENTIAL CODE ✓
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PARTAIR
PLAIN

Collect
Charge Department
OR
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RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1936 OCT 29 PM 5 02

Washington,

October 29, 1936.

6 P

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

Via Naval Radio

AMLEGATION,

✓ 381

ADDIS ABABA, (ETHIOPIA). *Via NR*

This cable was sent in confidential Code.
It should be carefully paraphrased before
being communicated to anyone. A

An observer in Europe characterizes Germany's
recognition of Italian conquest of Ethiopia as not sur-
prising and adds that it was given in return for concessions
permitting German participation in economic exploitation
through possible access to raw materials and sale of
machinery. It is stated that German Foreign Office makes
no excuse for German action stressing the point that Germany
was not a party to League agreements and consequently is
doing no more than recognizing an accomplished fact.

865D.01/186A

Carr
Acting.

NE:PHA:FMC

WE
31P
10/29/36
a mw

Oct. 29 1936 PM

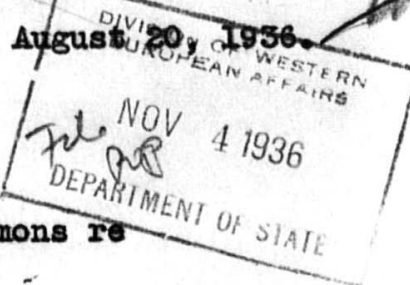
Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ M., _____, 19____



LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



No. 170.

Subject: Questions in the House of Commons re
Western Abyssinia.

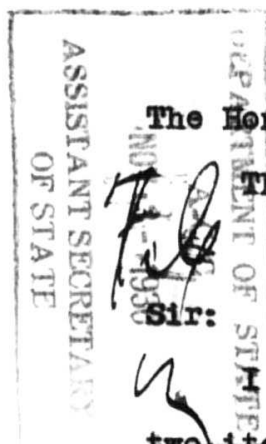
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1936 OCT 31 PM 12 13

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

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To the Field	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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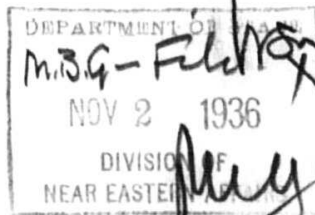
The Honorable,
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of two items regarding Western Abyssinia which may help to complete the Department's records in case they have not already been received from another source. Both are taken from the proceedings in the House of Commons as reported in the London TIMES of July 28 and August 1, 1936, respectively.

The first item consists of a question asked by a Labor Member in the House of Commons on July 27th whether any native governments were functioning in South-Western Abyssinia; whether order was being maintained there; and whether steps would be taken

to



865D.01/187

NOV 5 - 1936

FILED

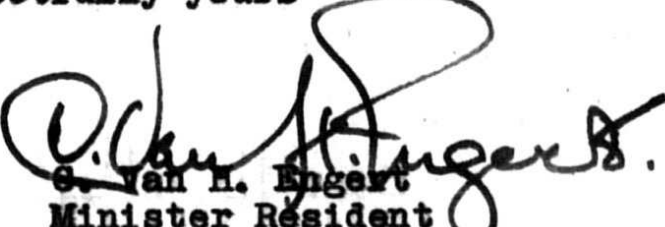
FP

to assist such native governments with money or ammunition. Mr. Eden, the Foreign Secretary, replied that owing to the hostility of the Galla tribes the few remaining Amhara officials in Western Ethiopia are unable to exercise any authority, and that communications with the interior and even with Gambeila are unsafe. He added that the British Consul at Gore had been authorized at his discretion to facilitate the evacuation of British subjects in the unoccupied parts of the country, but there was "no foundation whatever for allegations which have been made in certain quarters that His Majesty's Consul at Gore had been engaged in political activities". This last remark was obviously intended to silence Italian accusations - freely made in Addis Ababa - that Captain Erskine, the British Consul at Gore, has made himself virtually "Governor of Wollega" and was organizing native resistance to the Italians.

The second item represents an inquiry made by a Unionist member in the House of Commons on July 31st, whether permission would be given to British civilians to proceed to Gore for the purpose of assisting the authorities there to maintain order and to prevent inter-tribal friction. The Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs (Lord Cranborne) replied in the negative and said that His Majesty's Consul at Gore had described the local
situation

situation very clearly and he had not asked for assistance. No useful purpose would be served by adding to his already heavy responsibilities.

Respectfully yours


G. Van H. Engert
Minister Resident

File No. 711/801
CVHE/jef.

End

HOUSE OF COMMONS

July 27, 1936.

(Proceedings reported in
the London TIMES of July 28, 1936)

Mr. ELLIS SMITH (Stoke, Lab.) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether a native Government or Governments now functioned in all or part of South-Western Abyssinia; whether order was being maintained in that region; whether, in order to preserve peace and order in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, steps would be taken to assist such native Governments; and what response had been made to any recent requests from such Governments for assistance in money or ammunition from His Majesty's Government or the Government of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.

Mr. EDEN (Warwick and Leamington, U.).- The few Amhara officials remaining in Western Abyssinia to-day are not in a position, owing to the hostility of the Galla population, to exercise any authority. Reports have recently been received from His Majesty's Consul at Gore that very disturbed conditions continue to prevail in his district. Communications between Gore and the interior are extremely uncertain and the road between Gore and Gambeila is also unsafe. There are at present in the unoccupied portions of Abyssinia, including the Gore Consular district, many independent bands of Amhara soldiery living on the country who are in frequent conflict with the local tribes.

As there are a number of foreign missionaries and traders and various isolated settlers in the unoccupied portions of Western Abyssinia, His Majesty's Consul at Gore has been authorized at his discretion to take such steps as may be possible to facilitate their evacuation; and a number of persons have succeeded in reaching Gore and Gambeila. As regards the last part of the question, I cannot add anything to the statements which have been previously made on this subject.

I should like to take the opportunity of making it clear to the House that there is no foundation whatever for allegations which have been made in certain quarters that His Majesty's Consul at Gore has been engaged in political activities. On the contrary, Captain Erskine's sole concern has been to endeavour to maintain order and ensure the safety of foreigners in his district. His work in this respect has been of the utmost value.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

July 31, 1936.

(Proceedings reported in
the London TIMES of August 1, 1936)

Mr. V. ADAMS (Leeds, W., U.) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether his Majesty's Government would give permission to British civilians to proceed at their own risk by air or otherwise through the Sudan to Gore to inquire about the conditions prevailing in Western Abyssinia, and to advise and assist the authorities in control there in maintaining law and order and in preventing intertribal friction; and whether the Government would permit free communication by telegraph or otherwise between such inquirers or advisers and London.

VISCOUNT CRANBORNE, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs (Dorset, S., U.).- No, sir. His Majesty's Consul at Gore, in whose relations with such local native authorities as exist my right hon. friend has every confidence, and whose reports describe the local situation very clearly, has not asked for assistance. No useful purpose would therefore be served by adding to his already heavy responsibilities, at a time when conditions in Western Abyssinia are so disturbed as to threaten the security of foreigners, and where communications are unsafe.



LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Addis Ababa, September 20, 1936.

~~NE~~
~~WE~~
~~Adc~~

No. 184

Subject: Statement in the Press re German Legation
and German Nationals.

DIVISION OF WESTERN
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
NOV 5 1936
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CONFIDENTIAL

FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK
To the Field Yes No
In U. S. A.
Copy for Embassy - Berlin
Embassy - Rome
Paris

Commercial Office (A-O/O)

To Berlin
Rome
Paris
11/6/36
on

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
M.B.G. - Files
NOV 2 1936
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

The Honorable

The Secretary of State

Washington.

Sir:

865d.01/175

Referring to the Legation's despatch No. 175 of
September 2, 1936, I have the honor to quote below, in
translation, the following item which appeared in
today's GIORNALE DI ADDIS ABEBA:

"Significant Gesture of the Ex-Minister
of Germany.

"The ex-Minister of Germany, Dr. Strohmann, called
together in the office of his Consulate General all
German nationals residing here and has suggested to
them that they continue their work in Ethiopia,
assuring them that they will enjoy the sympathy and
support of the Italian authorities, which demand of

foreigners

865d.01/183

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foreigners only that they enter into the spirit and regulations of Italian life in the Viceroyalty.

"We appreciate this action of Dr. Strohm's, which contributes not only towards confirming once more the fullest and most unconditional recognition of our conquest, but also towards facilitating considerably the work of our Government vis-à-vis foreign nationals to whom Fascist Italy extends willingly - provided they prove themselves worthy, proofs of her benevolence."

I learn from a reliable source that the immediate occasion for the meeting called at the German Consulate General by the German Chargé was an Italian order for the expulsion from Ethiopia of seven German families. I am told that Dr. Strohm had the greatest difficulty in persuading the Italian authorities to rescind the order, and that it was then suggested to him that he advise the German colony not to criticise the Italian authorities if they expected to be allowed to remain here.

Supplementing the account in my despatch No. 175 of Dr. Strohm's visit to the "Casa del Fascio", I am now informed by a person who was present that when the German Chargé took his departure he stood up in his car and, waving his hat to the crowd which had gathered around him, shouted in Italian: "Viva l'Impero Italiano! Viva l'Imperatore! Viva il Duce Mussolini!"

An amusing sequel to the German call at the Fascist Headquarters in Addis Ababa was a similar visit paid on September 8, 1936, by the French Minister, Mons. Albert Bodard. I have so far not been able to ascertain whether he acted under instructions or on his

own

own initiative, but I presume the former. Apparently no speeches were made on this occasion and the GIORNALE DI ADDIS ABEBA only devoted a few lines to the event.

Respectfully yours,


C. Van H. Engert
Minister Resident

File No. 710

CVHE/rlh

Copy for Embassy, Rome.
Copy for Embassy, Berlin.

4 copies
FP

189

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 762.65/230 FOR Tel. 610- 5pm

FROM Ethiopia (Engert) DATED Oct. 24, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127

REGARDING: Italian annexation of Ethiopia. It is confidently expected in Italian circles in Addis Ababa that one of the immediate results of the visit of Ciano to Berlin will be recognition by Germany of, -.

fp

865D.01/189

lw

Addis Ababa

This telegram must be
closely paraphrased before
communicating to anyone (A)

Dated October 24, 1936

Rec'd 6:57 a.m. 25th

Secretary of State

Washington

610, October 24, 5 p.m.

It is confidently expected in Italian circles
here that one of the immediate results of Ciano's visit
to Berlin will be de jure recognition by Germany of the
Italian annexation of Ethiopia.

ENGERT

EMB
RGC

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XIE

762.61/227

new
8652.01

190

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 762.65/242 FOR Tel. 1050- 11am

FROM France (Bullitt) DATED Oct. 27, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 ope

REGARDING: German recognition of Italian sovereignty over Abyssinia.
The, - was accorded more attention by commentators in the Paris
press, than the points embodied in Count Ciano's Munich state-
ment of October 25th.

fp

8650.01/190

U

A portion of this telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (B)

Paris

Dated October 27, 1936

Rec'd 9 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

1050, October 27, 11 a.m.

(GRAY) The German recognition of Italian sovereignty over Abyssinia, due perhaps to the fact that it formed the subject of a special Berlin communique, was accorded more attention by certain commentators in the Paris press than the points embodied in Count Ciano's Munich statement of October 25th. Neither French press nor public opinion was taken off its guard as it has been by previous Hitler week-end surprises. In fact the information which had reached Paris during the progress of the Ciano Berlin visit had already furnished a fairly accurate forecast of the points on which agreement was being sought.

There has consequently been little interpretative comment in the press which on the whole maintains a moderate tone. Several papers express the opinion that Germany is definitely repaying Italy for previous support and while stressing the silence preserved in Berlin appear thankful that the points of "agreement" were not couched in more specific terms. (END GRAY)

CONFIDENTIAL. An official at the Foreign Office

offered

U -2- #1050, Oct. 27, 11 a.m. from Paris

746.09
offered the opinion that the Munich statement was not on the whole alarming. He considered that both Italy and Germany were sincere in their desire to collaborate in the conclusion of a guarantee pact for Western Europe under certain definite conditions and that the door remained open for further negotiation.

852.01
While admitting that the reference to Spain might from one moment to the other be translated into an official recognition of the insurgent government he felt that the Italo-German reaffirmation of the principle of non-intervention in Spanish affairs could for the moment be relied on. The reference to "absolute national and colonial integrity" in the Ciano statement he considered significant and encouraging.

KLP:CSB

BULLITT

191

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 762.65/243 FOR Tel. 316 - noon

FROM Germany (Dodd) DATED Oct. 28, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 o.p.o.

REGARDING: German recognition of Italy's Ethiopian conquest. The, -
is not surprising. It is in return for Italian concessions
allowing Germany to participate in the exploitation of Ethio-
pia through the sale of machinery, and possible access to
raw materials as well as permitting Germany to develop more
fully her interests in the Danubian area.

fp

3657.01/191

U
This telegram must be
closely paraphrased
before being communicated
to anyone. (B)

WTF
NE
Berlin

Dated October 28, 1936

Rec'd 9:30 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

316, October 28, noon.

After several days consideration and discussion local reaction to recent Italo-German visit and pronouncements may be summarized as follows: the result is described as interesting but not exciting. It was carefully prepared in advance even Ciano's statement of Sunday (see Embassy's telegram 314, October 26, 1 p.m.) having been written we understand prior to his visit. Fundamentally the Italo-German position remains as previously reported but in certain specific phases the parallelism of interests is given point and action thereunder has been considered and possibly determined upon more explicitly. Germany seems to have gained Italy's adherence to her anti-communist policy while Italy has apparently been given to (*) that Germany will insist upon her Italy's inclusion in Western European agreements. Parenthetically a report received from an excellent source is to the effect that Great Britain as a first step to avenge Ethiopia and repair her own position lost in the Italian embroglio has been maneuvering to exclude Italy from a major role in a western pact and that Mussolini finally realizing

762 617243

741 61

U -2- 316, Oct. 28, noon from Berlin

realizing that England is his implacable enemy is taking necessary precautions to obtain Germany's support to prevent isolation.

On the whole the recent Italo-German discussions are a further and important step in the process of general European readjustment and would seem to be a prelude to further German successes in the Danubian and Balkan areas bringing closer a break up of the Little Entente and Czechoslovakia isolation and submission.

865d 01
German recognition of Italy's Ethiopian conquest is not surprising. It is in return for Italian concessions allowing German participation in the exploitation of Ethiopia through the sale of machinery and possible access to raw materials as well as permitting Germany to develop more fully her interests in the Danubian area. The Foreign Office makes no effort to excuse Germany's action respecting Ethiopia pointing out that it was never a party to League agreements and that it is doing no more than recognizing an accomplished fact.

852.00
Meanwhile respecting Spain Italy and Germany will probably act in close concert. The Foreign Office goes so far as to describe the Soviet Ambassador Rosenberg as being "in command" in Madrid declaring that he even attends cabinet meetings and generally directs the Spanish Government. While Franco is held to have shown himself an able military commander, the Foreign Office is uncertain whether he

U -3- #316, Oct. 28, noon from Berlin

he may prove to be an adequate peace leader and ruler of the country. The Catalan position is realized as dangerous and the exact motives of the Soviets in Spain are held in doubt here, it being uncertain to what degree they may wish to provoke European disturbances. Two currents of thought in Moscow are referred to; namely, a Russian national or Stalin tendency and a world revolution or radical tendency. Thus far the latter seems to dominate. As to recognition of Franco government the Foreign Office felt action premature prior to capture of Madrid but the impression was given that recognition would be immediate thereon. Meanwhile if there is anarchy in Madrid Germany would probably break off relations.

Briefly Italo-German parallelism seem to have become more clearly defined through the Ciano visit without being welded as yet into a bloc or alliance.

Copies to Rome, London, Paris, Moscow.

KLP
(*) apparent omission.

DODD

192

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 701.0084/33 Confidential File FOR Tel. 619,4pm.

FROM Ethiopia (Engert) DATED Oct. 28, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 o.p.

REGARDING:

Recognition of Ethiopia:
Claim that certain countries will soon follow Germany in
extending -

M ✓

865D.01/192

D65 L. 01 / 193-290
~~94-131~~

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9/11/68

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

- 2 -

the alleged viewpoint of Latin-American countries in this matter and did not purport to interpret this Government's views. As regards any "understanding" on this subject between this Government and other governments of Latin-America, referred to by the Ambassador, I stated that I was not aware of any such development and was sure that none existed.


Wallace Murray

WSM/GC

November 17 1936

No. 770

Strictly confidential

The Honorable

William Phillips,

American Ambassador,

Rome.

Sir:

There is enclosed, for your strictly confidential information, a copy of a memorandum of a conversation of November 2, 1936, between the Chief of the Division of Near Eastern Affairs and the Royal Italian Ambassador, relating to the recognition of Italian Conquest of Ethiopia.

Very truly yours,

R. WALTON MOORE

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosure:
Copy of memorandum
of conversation as
stated above.

865 D. 01/ 193

WE: RTP: NNB

11/11/36

NOV 14 1936

NE 12
MOG. 11/11/36

FA
Bx
[Signature]

865D.01/193

FP

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 701.6518/7 Confidential File, FOR Tel. 63, noon

FROM Costa Rica (Collins) DATED Nov. 2, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 870

REGARDING:

Italian Sovereignty over Abyssinia:
Information requested as to US attitude in recognition of -

M✓

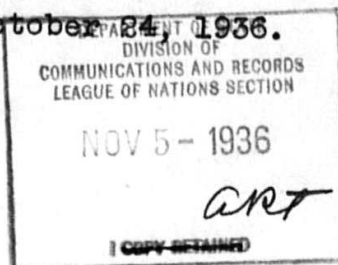
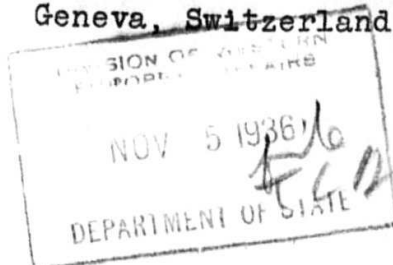
865D.01/194

194

NO. 1912 Political.

AMERICAN CONSULATE

Geneva, Switzerland, October 24, 1936.



SUBJECT: Italo-Ethiopian Dispute - Communication
from the Emperor of Ethiopia.

1-1055

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

SIR:

Referring to my telegram No. 438 of October 23, 6 p.m.,

- 1/ I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of League document No. C.452.M.268.1936.VII containing the text of the communication addressed to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations by the Emperor of Ethiopia on October 22 concerning the status of the Government in Western Ethiopia and appealing to the League not to abandon that country to extermination by the Italian aggressor.

Respectfully yours

Prentiss B. Gilbert

American Consul.

Enclosure:

No.1: League Document
C.452.M.268.1936.VII.

CTE/EW

Original and five copies to Department of State.

One copy to American Legation, Bern.

865D.01/195

FILED

GMB

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Enclosure No 1

with No 1512 of

Oct. 24 1936

Communicated to the
Council and Members
of the League.

C.452.M.268.1936.VII

Geneva, October 23rd, 1936.

TELEGRAM FROM H.M. HAILE SELASSIE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

London, October 22nd, 1936.

Request you to convey the following to the States Members of the League of Nations: With reference to our communication regarding the admission of the Ethiopian delegation the public authorities whom we have empowered to administer the Empire of Ethiopia in our absence have telegraphed to us the following appeal for communication to the League of Nations: "We have received Your Majesty's telegram of September 26th. It is perfectly true that the Imperial Government remains sovereign throughout Western Ethiopia, where it is at present discharging its duties peaceably with diligence, supported by the strength inspired by its complete confidence in the League of Nations. We learn, however, that Italy, our aggressor, has sworn to terrorise and pitilessly exterminate the Ethiopian people through the strength of her air force, and to wipe out the Western Government. Large forces of troops are also on the march. Without resources and without sufficient arms we cannot maintain our resistance. Is a peaceful people which loves its independence and has placed its whole trust in the League of Nations to be abandoned to its aggressor and to be exterminated by poison gas and bombs? The blood of this terrorised people calls out for justice to the Almighty and to the League of Nations and are confident that its cry will be heard. We earnestly beg Your Majesty to ask the League of Nations to consider the cause of Ethiopia urgently in a spirit of justice and to grant her its aid. We implore Your Majesty to renew your appeals to the League.

865d.01/195

Gambela, October 16th, 1936, BITWODED WOLDE SADIK.
RAS IMRU."

HAILE SELASSIE I,
Emperor.



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NOV 25 1936

ROME, October 22, 1936.

No. 47

Subject: Italian Administration and Development of Ethiopia.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
NOV 23 1936
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 18 1936
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF WESTERN
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
NOV 5 1936
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1936 NOV 4 PM 2 55

A/C/C COMMUNICATIONS
RECORDING DESK
FILE - WHB

Copy to Legation
Addis Ababa

Passage of information
AW

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

NOV 10 1936

Copy Transmitted by the
Commercial Office (A-O/O)

To Addis Ababa

174 11/21/36

With reference to my despatch No. 18 of September 30, 1936, regarding the Italian Administration and Development of Ethiopia, I have the honor to submit below a digest of information published here since September 30th with regard to Italian action and plans for the government and exploitation of the conquered territory.

Military and Political.

As has been expected, the approach of the dry season has brought announcements of renewed military activity on the part of the Italians in Ethiopia. On October 13th it was announced that preparations for completing the military occupation of Ethiopia had been perfected and that the troops were ready to advance. On October 18th it was announced that colonial "police operations" on a large scale were

under...

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865D.01/196

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under way in Ethiopia and that General Mariotti's brigade had just arrived at Addis Ababa from Dessie, reopening communications between those two cities which had been interrupted by the heavy rains. At the same time it was announced that General Geloso's division had reached Sammaro in the Lake region in its northward advance. The press later prominently reported an action by General Geloso's column at Giabassire during which 2,000 troops of Ras Desta Danteu, led by the Degiac Abai, were routed. The communiqué from Addis Ababa describing the action gave great praise to the native Somali troops who, it appears, are proving of great value as soldiers to the Italians. The Military Attaché to this Embassy understands that besides General Geloso's column, which as stated above is headed northward towards Addis Ababa to open up the Lake country, other columns are moving into the unoccupied regions to the West and Northwest of the capital where the chief opposition to Italian authority is still to be found. The press also reports the arrival in Addis Ababa from Dessié of a motorized column, composed of an Alpine regiment of the Pusteria division and of battalions of engineers and laborers.

In this connection, a communiqué announces the entraining of the first contingent of 30,000 laborers who will be sent to East Africa during November, where they will be enrolled in the Colonial Militia (See despatch No. 1889 of September 16th, 1936, page 2). These laborers are being mobilized for shipment overseas at Genoa, Trieste and Naples, and the first contingent, consisting of 3450 men, is scheduled to embark at Naples during the first days of November. /17/

The press continues to announce from time to time the submissions of important Ethiopian leaders and their following to Italian authority. Among those recently reported as

having...

having sworn the oath of allegiance were mentioned the Degiac Uolde Emanuel, "a relative of Tafari's" who was formerly Governor of Jimma; Lig Sei Micaelli, ex-Ethiopian Consul at Asmara; as well as several former officers of the Imperial Guard. A communiqué from Addis Ababa states that 700 natives of the province of Galla and Sidamo, of the Yuggi tribe, solemnly swore allegiance to Italian authority and promised to cooperate with the Italian troops in "restoring order and tranquility." It is also reported that Marshal Graziani had received a group of some thousand Moslems, including delegates of the Yemen Arabs to whom he promised protection against their enemies, adding that the end of the rainy season would mark the immediate beginning of work on the construction of mosques and Mohammedan schools in the conquered territory. The representative of the Moslem Delegation in reply read a message of gratitude and devotion to the Italian Government.

On October 17th, a notice of the death in a Swiss sanitarium of Ras Nasibu, leader of the Ethiopian forces in the Ogaden during the Ethiopian campaign, was published inconspicuously on the inside pages of the principal Italian newspapers. The arrival in Rome of Wolde Mariam, ex-Ethiopian Minister to Paris (See page 2 of despatch No. 18 of September 30, 1936) was reported by the press. It was said that after being received by the Minister for Colonies Mariam would rejoin his family at Torino.

Official Names of the Governments of Italian East Africa.

The press of October 13th announced that the Ministry of Colonies has issued a circular stating that the official names of the Governments of Italian East Africa which should be used in all official acts and correspondence, are as follows:

- (1) Royal Government General of Italian East Africa (Regio

Governo...

Governo Generale dell'Africa Orientale Italiana); (2) Royal Government of Eritrea; Asmara (Regio Governo dell'Eritrea); (3) Royal Government of Amara: Gondar (Regio Governo dell'Amara); (4) Royal Government of Harrar: Harrar (Regio Governo dell'Harrar); (5) Royal Government of Galla and Sidamo: Javello (Regio Governo dei Galla e Sidamo); (6) Royal Government of Italian Somaliland: Mogadiscio (Regio Governo della Somalia Italiana. It points out that the Governorship (Governatorato of Addis Ababa is a municipal administration, not a Government (Governo), and is under the Government General. It adds that the Government that has jurisdiction over all the Italian territory in East Africa is named "The Government General of Italian East Africa" and that all other denominations such as "the Government General of Ethiopia", "the Government of the Empire", or the Government of the Viceroy" are incorrect. The head of the Government General should be styled "The Governor General of Italian East Africa."

Political and Administrative.

665d.014
The press on October 17th announced that the territory of the Government of Eritrea has been divided into eleven Regional Commissariats and one Autonomous Residency, as follows:

(a) Regional Commissariat of Hamasien with its seat at Asmara; (b) Regional Commissariat of Cheren with its seat at Cheren, Vice-Residency at Nacfa; (c) Regional Commissariat of the Western Basin with its seat at Agordat, Residency at Barantu-Tessenei, Vice-Residency at Om Ager; (d) Regional Commissariat of Seraé with its seat at Adi Ugrí, Vice-Residency at Adi Quala, Regional Commissariat of Acchelé Guzai with its seat at Adi Caieh, Residency at Decameré, Vice-Residency at Arafali Senafe; (f) Regional Commissariat of the Eastern Basin..

Basin with its seat at Massaua. In the Tigrai region:

(g) the Regional Commissariat of Adua with its seat at Adua, Residencies at Acsum, Enda Selassié, Ad Daro, and Enticcio; (h) Regional Commissariat of Adigrat with its seat at Adigrat, Residences at Atzebi and Hausien, Vice-Residencies at Agula and Au; (i) Regional Commissariat of Macallé with its seat Macallé, Residencies at Dubub and Quorem, Vice-Residencies at Haraguré, Mai Ceu and Enda Medanie Alem; (l) Regional Commissariat of Abii Addi with its seat at Abii Addi, Residencies at Samré and Averghellé. In the Dancalia region: (m) Regional Commissariat of Assab with its seat at Assab, Residency at Thio, Vice-Residencies at Sardo and Sifani; (n) Autonomous Residency of the Galla Countries with its seat at Allamata, Vice-Residencies at Cuoberta and Ala.

Economic and Industrial Development.

The Mission of the National Council of Research which arrived in Addis Ababa on September 24th to study technical and economic problems involved in the development of Ethiopia (Embassy's despatch No. 18 of September 30, 1936) made the following recommendations: that the flour mills be reorganized and expanded in order that they may grind sufficient wheat for local needs, since imported flour deteriorates during transportation; that the alcohol distilleries be reorganized with a view to supplying sufficient alcohol for mixture with gasoline, in order to decrease imports of gasoline; that Italian manufacturers send their very cheapest textiles to Ethiopia for native use, in order to meet native and Japanese competition; that Italian experts supervise the tanning of hides, most of which are now spoiled by the natives through improper curing; and that factories be constructed for the manufacture of by-products from slaughtered cattle, which are at present wasted by the natives...

natives.

It will be recalled that the Ministry of Colonies on September 16th gave out a list of 16 manufacturers of building materials and 33 road construction firms, which it had authorized to do business in Ethiopia (Embassy's despatch No. 1889 of September 16, 1936). A second such list was published on October 21st comprising the following: road construction firms, 10; building materials, 7; railway public works, 1; foodstuffs, 10; chemicals, 3; hotels, restaurants, bars, etc. 7; machinery, 1; clothing, textiles, etc., 5; hides and furs, 1; and import and export trade, 1.

Labor.

765d.504

The Stefani Agency reports that in conformity with the orders of the Duce, the following labor regulations for Italian workers in Italian East Africa have been established: The working week is fixed at eight hours a day and forty-eight hours a week. Twenty-five per cent extra wages are paid for overtime, and fifty percent extra for ordinary work at night or in the heat. The Viceroy is personally studying a standard labor contract for all Italian laborers in Italian East Africa, which will be submitted to the Home Government for approval before adoption. Under this, unskilled laborers would receive 35 lire a day, skilled laborers 38, and specialists 45, foremen of gangs of laborers (capisquadra) 45, and foremen of gangs of specialists 55 lire a day. Food not inferior to that of the troops would be furnished to laborers at not more than 5 lire a day. A special bonus of 15 lire a day would be paid laborers who work in Dancalia and the Eritrean basin and a bonus of 6 lire to laborers in Somaliland and other parts of the Empire below 1000 meters in altitude. The voyages from and to Italy would be paid by the employer, provided the laborer remains in Africa one year. Should the laborer have to return

to...

to Italy before the year is up, for reasons of health, the return voyage would be paid by the National Fund for Sickness Assistance for Laborers in East Africa.

8652.15 Labor

The press continues to report measures taken for the protection of the rights and comfort of Italian laborers. A news despatch under Asmara date line of October 9th states that the Governor of Eritrea paid an unexpected visit to the labor camps between Adigrat and Alagi and, finding certain irregularities in the treatment of workers, fined the head of the firm of Ercole Grazzo 25,000 lire and sent him back to Italy. The firm of Sabio was fined 50,000 lire and three of its foremen were ordered repatriated. Another news despatch on October 9th reports that Cibin Company was fined 30,000 lire for negligence with regard to the laborers' food and for improper sanitary conditions.

Public Works.

8652.15

Signor Lessona, the Minister of Colonies, and Signor Cobolli Gigli, the Minister of Public Works, accompanied by a number of officials of their respective Ministries, arrived in Addis Ababa on October 13th, where they were received with great ceremony by the Viceroy, high government officials, and military officers. After inspecting the public works already completed and conferring with the Viceroy on future activities of the Government, the two Ministers will visit the other Governments of Italian East Africa. During their absence from Italy, the Duce has temporarily taken over their duties.

The Council of Ministers at its meeting on October 10th approved the draft of a law to establish a commission in Italy, composed of government officials of the various ministries interested, and a sub-commission in Italian East Africa, to make extensive maps of Ethiopia for military, industrial, agricultural

cultural, and scientific purposes.

The Council also approved the draft of a decree to extend to the governments of Italian Somaliland, Galla and Sidamo, and Harrar, the legislation in force in Eritrea with regard to the expropriation of property for public use.

Finance.

865 N. 515
Ready
With reference to the decree of July 2, 1936, establishing the lire as the only legal currency in Ethiopia (Embassy's despatches No. 1797 of July 22 and No. 1839 of August 19th), the Council of Ministers at its meeting on October 10th approved the draft of a law to authorize the sale of Maria Theresa thalers by branches of the Bank of Italy and other public banks in Italian East Africa, to private persons at the rate in lire fixed by the Government General for their retirement. The draft law further provides that this right can be suspended in the interests of the Treasury by Interministerial decree.

Aviation.

865.79665d
Mid
Commerce
A direct air service between Rome and Addis Ababa was inaugurated on October 15th by the Ala Littoria. The line will operate two tri-motor airplanes weekly, with stopovers at Tripoli, Bengazi and Dire Dawa, whence one plane will continue to Addis Ababa and the other to Mogadiscio. The trip from Rome will take three, four, and five days to Dire Dawa, Addis Ababa, and Mogadiscio, respectively.

Public Health.

SD. 12
The press states that the Government General has begun to isolate in special villages lepers who were formerly allowed to wander at large. Three hundred have already been placed on the property of Degiac Ighasu, who fled the country and whose property was therefore confiscated.

Foreign...

Foreign Commercial Interests.

8650.6371
According to an official communiqué published in the Italian press on October 2nd, the Italian Government and a group of businessmen representing the Djibouti Salt Mines and the Franco-Ethiopian Company for Trade in Salt signed a contract for twenty-five years, which regulates all questions regarding the salt industry in Ethiopia.

Foreign Diplomats.

701.0084
The press on October 2nd reported that the Viceroy paid a visit to Dr. Strohm, the ex-German Minister at Addis Ababa, who has shown himself extremely friendly to the Italians (Embassy's despatch No. 18 of September 30th, page 10). In this connection it stated that this was the first visit that the Viceroy had made to any of the "former diplomatic representatives" in Addis Ababa and was due to the fact that Germany was the first nation to recognize Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia. The Viceroy also called on M. Bodard, the French Minister, on whom he conferred the Cross of War for Military Valor for "his courageous conduct during the barbarous sack of the capital on May 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, before the arrival of the Italian troops."

Respectfully yours,

For the Ambassador:

A. Kirk

Alexander Kirk,
Counselor of Embassy.

GG/RH/wrm

801

k

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 707.1165/2 FOR Tel #66, 3pm

FROM Colombia (Dawson) DATED Nov. 5, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 o p o

REGARDING: Official reception for which invitations have been issued by Italian Minister as "Envoy of King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia": requests instructions as to whether American Minister and staff should attend same.

wb

865D.01/197

197

JS

Gray

BOGOTA

Dated November 5, 1936

Rec'd 6 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

66, November 5, 3 p.m.

I request the Department's instructions as to whether my staff and I should attend on November 11 an official reception the invitations for which have been issued by the Italian Minister as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia. I have learned informally that the Colombian Foreign Office has not yet decided upon its attitude in the matter. Certain of my colleagues are considering a suggestion to the effect that although no reply is requested their position be made clear by addressing a written acceptance to the "Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of Italy."

DAWSON

NPL TMB

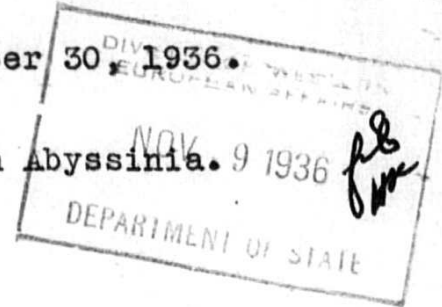


EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No 42616

London, October 30, 1936.

Subject: Conditions in Western Abyssinia. 9 1936



865D.01

936 NOV 6 AM 11 23

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AND RECORDS

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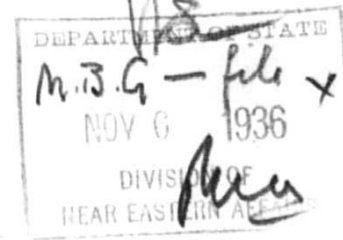
NOV 10 1936

FILE

865D.01/198

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.



Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a clipping
/ from HANSARD containing a statement by Mr. Eden in the
House of Commons last night regarding conditions in
Western Abyssinia.

FILED
NOV 11 1936

Respectfully yours,

For the Ambassador:

Herschel V. Johnson
Herschel V. Johnson
First Secretary of Embassy.

Enclosure:
"Italy and Abyssinia",
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES (House of Commons),
October 29, 1936.

HM/ER

R

SOURCE: PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES,
House of Commons,
29 October 1936.
London. Cols. 27-28.

NUMBER:

ITALY AND ABYSSINIA.

49. **Mr. PALING** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he has any information to give the House with regard to the present position of affairs in Abyssinia?

Mr. EDEN: During the rainy season, which lasted until the end of September, there was so far as His Majesty's Government are aware, no appreciable extension of the area occupied by the Italian forces during the campaign which ended with the fall of Addis Ababa on 5th May last. My latest information indicates, however, that an Italian column is advancing on Jimma, while another is making its way northwards from the Kenya frontier and is believed to have occupied Allata, approximately half-way to Addis Ababa. In Western Abyssinia and other territories so far unoccupied by the Italian forces there has been much tribal unrest coupled with disorders between Galla, Amhara and Arab elements. The situation in the unoccupied provinces has continued steadily to deteriorate, in the absence of any constituted Government capable of enforcing its authority over the varied sections of the population.

In order to avoid unnecessary risks, His Majesty's Consulate at Gore was closed on 28th September. The Consul, Captain Erskine, has withdrawn to the Sudan Customs post in the Gambeila *enclave*, where he arrived safely on 13th October. Prior to that date Captain Erskine had succeeded, thanks to the influence which he was able to exert upon individual Amhara and Galla chieftains, both in Gore and in other centres, in arranging for the safe evacuation of the majority of the foreign missionaries, merchants and others willing and able to leave Abyssinia. In certain cases foreigners have either preferred, owing to the insecurity of the communications, or been compelled, owing to the uncertainties of the tribal position, to remain under the protection of friendly native chieftains. A telegram received from Gambeila on 22nd October reports that civil war is now believed openly to have broken out between Amhara and Galla in the Western provinces.

Mr. BELLENGER: Does our position in relation to Lake Tsana remain unchanged?

Mr. EDEN: Perhaps the hon. Gentleman will put that question on the Paper.

TRIPPLICATE

No. 02616

London, October 30, 1936.

Subject: Conditions in Western Abyssinia.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a clipping
/ from HANDED containing a statement by Mr. Eden in the
House of Commons last night regarding conditions in
Western Abyssinia.

Respectfully yours,

For the Ambassador:

Marschel V. Johnson
First Secretary of Embassy.

Enclosure:

"Italy and Abyssinia",

THE LANCET (House of Commons),
October 29, 1936.

HM/CH

COPY

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(House of Commons)
London
October 29, 1936.
Cols. 27-28.

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Mr. EDEN: Perhaps the hon. Gentleman will put that question on the Paper.

ED Mr. Moore
(see O'Neill)

Received : July 1, 1955 0645
TYPED : July 1, 1955 0800

PRITY SENT DEPT TOUSFO 413 RPTD INFO SAIGON USOM 653 VIENTIANE USOM 31

Reference: A) Saigon TOUSFO 1437 repeated Vientiane 275 PhnomPenh 465
B) TOUSFO 347 repeated Saigon USOM 626 Vientiane USOM 37.

Urge reply soonest as 30,000,000 piasters properly chargeable to DFS allotment FY 55 for Laos.

WALLING

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NPL

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone (A)

Addis Ababa via N.R.

Dated April 29, 1936

Rec'd 7:22 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

250, April 29, 3 p.m.

CONFIDENTIAL

My 231, April 22, 5 p.m.

Government will probably leave tomorrow afternoon for Lekempti some 150 miles due west of here. Latest reports indicate Italians may occupy Addis Ababa about May 3, provided they meet with no resistance. Small Ethiopian forces believed still holding certain strategic positions about eighty miles north of the capital.

The Government will be accompanied by Spencer (See my 13, January 7) and by Dr. and Mrs. Lambie (See my 171, November 14).

ENGERT

NPL:SMS

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 033.66a 11 /5 FOR Tel.#634.noon.

FROM Ethiopia (Engert) DATED November 7, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 ***

REGARDING: Italian annexation of Ethiopia. French Minister interpreted present visit to United States of Cardinal Pacelli, Secretary of State for the Vatican, being of political significance and intimated American Government would give sympathetic consideration to question of -provided the Cardinal put a stop to the anti-Roosevelt activities of Father Coughlin.

drp

865D.01/199

66/199

NE
WE

RB

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (A)

Addis Ababa

Dated November 7, 1936

Rec'd 12:45 p. m.

Secretary of State

Washington.

634, November 7, noon.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

033-66A 11
note
865 D. 01
811.00

The French Minister told me this morning that he had learned from a confidential source (I gathered it was quite apparent his Government had repeated to him from Rome) that the visit of Cardinal Pacelli to the United States, especially his arrival there on the same ship with the new Italian Ambassador, had considerable political significance. It was even intimated the American Government had promised Pacelli, if he put a stop to the anti-Roosevelt activities of Father Coughlin and otherwise influence the Roman Catholic vote in favor of the Administration, the Government would be more likely to give sympathetic consideration to the question of recognition of the Italian annexation of Ethiopia.

I replied that while I knew nothing whatever of the Cardinal's mission (?) I personally considered an

interpretation

RB

-2-#634, November 7, noon from
Addis Ababa

interpretation of it such as he had heard utterly
preposterous and entirely foreign to American practices.

To my surprise the Minister seemed unconvinced and
said he thought there might be something in the report
after all.

ENGERT

KLP

WWC

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 763.65/192 FOR Tel. 457- 11am

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED Nov. 10, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 ope

REGARDING: Government- Italian East Africa. The press reports with considerable prominence, the Reuter despatch from Belgrade that Yugoslavia will recognize Italian conquest of Ethiopia by accrediting the new Minister to the, King Emperor.

fp

865D.01/ 200

GF

200

WE
NE

U

GRAY

Rome

Dated November 10, 1936

Rec'd 8:40 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

457, November 10, 11 a.m.

My 454, November 8, 11 a.m.

The press carries full accounts of Ciano's visit to Vienna but so far publishes little editorial comment. The Government spokesman last night, however, made the following points:

(1) While the Vienna conference is of the routine type provided for by those Rome protocols which both politically and economically have proved so valuable for the two Danubian countries "most seriously injured by the war and the fall of the Hapsburg monarchy" it will nevertheless lead to concrete accords on many important new Danubian problems which the three governments have examined during the past few months.

(2) Existing trade agreements among the three countries will be guaranteed following the lira alignment by accords initialed with Austria on November 5th and on the road to completion with Hungary. Furthermore, Italian

economy

76365/192

863.01

663.6421
663.6421
663.6421
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663.6421

U -2- #457, Nov. 10, 11 a.m. from Rome

economy having increased through the Abyssinian conquest "the business of Austria and Hungary desires to take this into account"; since those two countries refused to support sanctions they need go through no political "contortions" to recognize the accomplished fact.

763.6511
(3) With regard to the Little Entente countries from some of which "come rumors sounding like applications for adherence to the Rome protocols" it does not appear that the moment has yet come for any formal amplification of those protocols since "the interests, positions and political trends of the various Danubian countries are showing accentuated differentiations" whereas the Rome group is clear and united. In every particular the interests of the Danubian countries "can always be harmonized in other more direct and limited forms".

762.65
(4) The conference completes, although having no direct reference to, the recent Italo-German conversations. The Austro-German declaration of July 11th and Italo-German accords for peaceful economic collaboration in the Danube where the two countries have "predominant" trade interests will be given the favorable consideration they deserve.

(5) Certain inequalities still remaining among the Danubian successor states and preventing confident collaboration must be rectified in accordance with justice and with the many precedents established in other parts of Europe during the past few years.

(6)

U -3- #457, Nov. 10, 11 a.m. from Rome

(6) The Vienna conference will undoubtedly devote attention to the recent defensive Italo-German accord against that menace to good relations between states and therefore to European peace represented by a communist movement inspired abroad and fatally tolerated by the democratic regimes.

865d.01
In connection with the remarks made in point (3) the press today reports with considerable prominence the Reuter despatch from Belgrade that Yugoslavia will recognize the Italian conquest of Ethiopia by accrediting the new Minister to the King Emperor.

PHILLIPS

KLP

865d.01

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

201

SEE 762.65/255 FOR #59

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED Oct. 30, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127

REGARDING: Recognition by Germany of the Italian Empire of
Ethiopia. Statement by Count Ciano to the Munich
Press regarding-

mb

865D.01/201

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

U

GRAY

1-1336

FROM Rome

Dated November 12, 1936

Rec'd 2:35 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

459, November 12, 4 p.m.

My 457, November 10, 11 a.m.



The newspapers this morning display the speeches made by the three foreign ministers in Vienna last night and emphasize Austro-Hungarian recognition of Ethiopia.

The government spokesman last night, attributing the sober tone of the communique regarding Italo-Austrian talks to the absence of any particularly important questions between Italy and Austria, stressed the value of the Austro-German accord and its recent confirmation at Berlin. This accord signified no change in Austria's Italian policy but represented Germany's frank rapprochement to the Italian policy respecting Austrian sovereignty, nonintervention in Austrian internal affairs and collaboration on the basis of the Rome protocols, thereby strengthening Austria's internal position and eliminating all potential Italo-German conflict. He adduced as proof the attitude of the German press toward the Vienna Conference and concluded that the Italo-Austrian talks had confirmed

865D.01/202

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LMS -2- #459, Nov. 12, 4 p.m. from Rome

confirmed the joint interests and intentions established between Rome, Berlin and Vienna and now being extended as the tripartite conference would show to Budapest.

Other editorial writers during the past two days make the following points:

(One). Austria shares Italian views on the League but in view of her special position desires to wait until a supreme effort has been made to save the League through reform. It is untrue that this attitude threatens the solidarity of the Rome group. One writer says that the three powers will spurn no country which may decide to orientate itself in the direction of the Rome protocols but "barring unforeseen developments it is highly dubious that any advance in this direction will open out on the Geneva road".

(Two). Gradual and peaceful revision is indispensable to peace. There can be no conciliation for example so long as ^{Praque} ~~Prague~~ threatens to denounce her obligations toward minorities if Hungary insists on remilitarization. This does not mean that Italy is determined to bring up the military question immediately; Hungary's present inferiority can not however be perpetuated. It is noted that Yugoslavia maintains a far more dignified and fair attitude toward the Hungarian minority than Czechoslovakia.

(Three). Since the three countries stand against

bolshevism

LMS 3-No. 459, November 12, 4 p. m., from Rome.

bolshevism which has now attempted a frontal attack in Spain they will maintain toward developments which are perhaps imminent there a joint attitude "even if on different planes of responsibility".

(Four). The three signatories will seek to extend cooperation with all Danubian and central European countries. Austria particularly desires to extend her economic relations and the three powers are in favor of bilateral agreements though opposing negotiations with political groups. One writer stresses the point that there can be no stability and prosperity in the Danube without a minimum of reparation for past injustices or so long as "somebody" is opening up the heart of Europe to the Soviets. Commercial agreements to be concluded by the individual signatories of the Rome protocols are to be studied in the light of their joint interests. It is hoped that the Austro-German commercial treaties will be signed very soon.

(Five). In her Danubian and general policy Italy seeks for herself only the general advantages resulting from pacification. If the other great powers desire peace they must cast off all prejudices as Italy has done (witness her attitude toward England) and as England appears to be doing. While France still refuses real collaboration and is dominated by ideological prejudices it may be hoped

that

LMS 4-No. 459, November 12, 4 p. m., from Rome.

that sooner or later she will change her policy from which she is the first to suffer.

(Six.) Despatches from Vienna discourage the theory that any decision will be reached regarding the Hapsburg restoration. In foreign press circles in Rome reports relating to a Hapsburg restoration are linked with rumors of a marriage between Otto of Hapsburg and Maria of Savoie but no reference is made to it in the Italian press.

PHILLIPS

CSB

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

DIVISION OF AFFAIRS
EUROPE
NOV 18 1936
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
CWE
WE

U
This telegram must be
closely paraphrased
before being communicated
to anyone. (A)

FROM

Addis Ababa

Dated November 16, 1936

Rec'd 7:15 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

639, November 16, 9 a.m.

MBG-File
1936
X

865d.01

In Italian circles here the recognition by Austria
and Hungary of the annexation of Ethiopia is welcomed
with special popularity because it comes from two
countries that are members of the League of Nations
while Germany is not.

It is generally expected that Austria and Hungary,
as well as Germany, will now be permitted to participate
in the economic exploitation of Ethiopia.

ENGERT

RR

FILED

NOV 18 1936

865D.01/203

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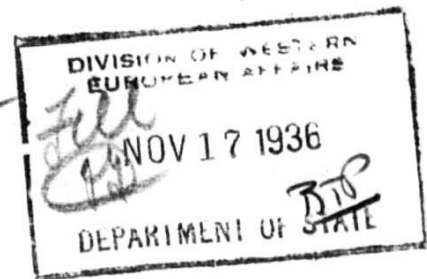
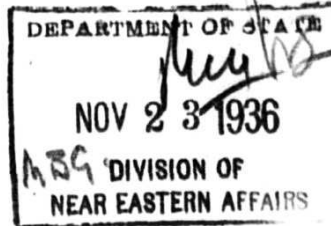


LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 496

Budapest, October 31, 1936.

SUBJECT: Recognition of Italian
sovereignty in Ethiopia.



865D.01/204

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

With reference to my telegram No. 53
of October 28, 5 p.m., I have the honor to
inform the Department that Baron Apor,
Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
advised me today that since my conversation
with Mr. de Kánya they had received word
from Count Ciano that while Italy desires
Hungary to recognize Italian sovereignty

in

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LP

in Ethiopia, he thought it best for the Hungarian Government to wait until after the Vienna conference which convenes November 11th, at which time Baron Apor thought that Austria and Hungary would take whatever steps the Italians desired in this connection.

Respectfully yours,


John F. Montgomery.

In quintuplicate.

Legation file 710

Copies to Rome and Vienna.

JFM/w

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

December 11 1936

U

This telegram must be ¹⁻¹³³⁶ FROM Rome
closely paraphrased
before being communicated
to anyone. (B)

Dated November 18, 1936

Rec'd 2:29 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

469, November 18, 5 p.m.

CONFIDENTIAL.

My 465, November 16, 4 p.m.

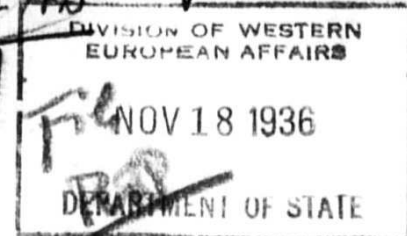
The Japanese Ambassador told me this morning that his Government would send a consular officer to Addis Ababa "very soon" and admitted that this would constitute "de facto" recognition. He also told me that the Italian Government is planning to open a consulate in Manchukuo but this would follow some time later. He agreed that this action would amount to de facto recognition but did not consider that such recognition interested his government very much as the interests of Italy were not particularly important. What Japan was anxious to obtain was recognition by China and by the powers having great interests there.

PN PHILLIPS

CSB

(MS)

*Paraphrases sent to
Ch. Peking (Nanking) + Tokyo*



865D.01/205

NOV 27 1936

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PARAPHRASE

A confidential telegram (No. 469) of November 18, 1936, from the American Embassy at Rome reads substantially as follows:

On November 18 the American Ambassador was informed by the Japanese Ambassador that "very soon" the Japanese Government would send a consular officer to Addis Ababa. The Japanese Ambassador admitted that this action would constitute "de facto" recognition and he stated that it is the intention of the Italian Government to open a consulate in Manchukuo but that this would be some time later. Although the Japanese Ambassador agreed that the opening of the consulate would amount to de facto recognition of Manchukuo, he was of the opinion that his Government was much interested in such recognition as Italian interests were not especially important. Recognition by China and by the powers having large interests in Manchukuo was the thing that Japan was anxious to obtain.

EGC.
FE:EGC

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FE

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

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b

SEE 762.94/90 FOR Telegram #343, 10 am.

FROM Germany (Dodd) DATED November 20, 1936.
TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING: Recognition of Manchukuo and Ethiopia. Foreign Office gave impression that Italy and Japan were arranging to exchange consular representatives in Manchukuo and Abyssinia, respectively, which would amount to-

wth

865D.01/206



DIVISION OF
TRADE AGREEMENTS
TA

DEC 7 1936

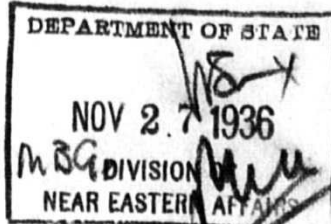
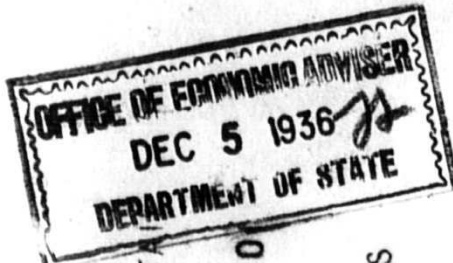
EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ROME, November 12, 1936.

77043

No. 74

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Subject: Italian Administration and Development of
Ethiopia.



RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1936 NOV 24 PM 3 0

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

A/C/C
RECORDING DESK
FILE - WHB

Copy transmitted by
Commercial Office (A-C/O)
To

addis afaba
Regulation Addis Ababa
MID PP 1-6
Huber - number

Commerce - number

Polit

Public Health - number

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

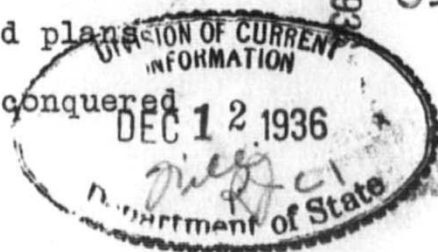
DEC 1 - 1936

Sir:

In continuation of my despatch No. 47 of October
22, 1936 regarding the Italian Administration and
Development of Ethiopia, I have the honor to submit
below a digest of information published here since
October 22 with regard to Italian action and plans
for the government and exploitation of the conquered
territory.

Military and Political

An official communiqué, published on October 25,
announced that on the morning of the preceding day an
Italian column under the command of Colonel Malta
entered Lekemti, the most important center of the
Wollega



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DEC 14 1936

365D.01/207

Wollega region, after a rapid march from Addis Ababa via Alem and Ambo. It is added that the Italian troops received a very cordial welcome from the native population. It will be recalled that twelve Italians were killed at Lekemti on June 26, when they landed there by airplane. (Embassy's despatch No. 1776 of July 9, 1936). The only survivor of this expedition was Father Borello, who managed to escape and, after getting into communication with Marshal Graziani, to return and carry on propaganda work in the region until the present arrival of the Italians. The communiqué further stated that, according to reports received from all points west, the Gallas had recognized Italian sovereignty "and are anxiously awaiting the arrival of our troops, meanwhile forming armed bands against the surviving groups of hated Shoan bandits who held their country in slavery for some fifty years."

The Italians have subsequently continued their advance and, according to a Stefani Agency despatch under Addis Ababa dateline of November 11, the situation is now as follows: "In the northern sector up to the eleventh parallel, the region is absolutely calm, the political situation is satisfactory, and the administrative organization is in methodical development. In the southern sector down to the sixth parallel, the situation is identical to that of the northern. At Addis Ababa, Dessie, and Harrar, the situation is most tranquil and characterized by the extremely docile behavior of the populations and the increase of the local populations due to the return of thousands of inhabitants who had fled into the interior some time ago. In the sector of the Djibouti railway

railway the situation has greatly improved as a result of two lessons given to disturbers of this region. In north-western Shoa the guerrilla warfare has terminated, and the glorious brigade commanded by General Tracchia, carrying on operations in that place, has become considerably more powerful as a result of the end of the rainy season and has reduced the rebels to silence and is efficiently cooperating in the political systematization of the territory. In western Shoa, our brave troops have occupied immense territories to a depth of 400 kilometers. The fertility of the territory is equalled by the friendly sentiments of the Gallas toward Italy. Lekemti, firmly occupied by our troops both physically and morally, through the very friendly sentiments of the inhabitants, has become an important military and political center for operations, and from an economic point of view is serving as a point of attraction for innumerable caravans from far west, so that the sublime sacrifice of General Magliocco and his valorous companions is bearing fruit politically in the hearts of the population and in the development of the situation. In the Harrar region, after five months of strife, our brave troops have overcome the enormous obstacles of the mountainous country of Gendulo and Garambulata and victoriously descended towards Bale and the fertile lands of the Arussi in cooperation with the valorous troops of Somaliland which proceeded north with the same aim from the sectors of Gestro and Scebeli. In the region of the Lakes, the valorous Geloso column continues its decisive advance into territory where the

rebels

rebels had hoped to establish their permanent bases.

"The rebels Beiené Merid and Fitaaurari Tafari show that they have no intention of fighting the Italians and have assumed a passive attitude, hoping to avail themselves of an opportune moment to obtain the pardon of victorious Italy. The rebel Gabre Mariam, wounded, already very old, severely crippled by General Geloso at Giabassire Denise and Cociorre Sad, deprived of forces by continual desertions of his followers, is considered by military authorities as an adversary, already overcome by the situation, who awaits his last hour.

"There remains Ras Desta, whose uncertain situation is seriously menaced by the column at present marching on Allata. The occupation of Allata, now not far off, will make Ras Desta's position untenable, since it will be threatened either from Neghelli or from the northeast, with the only road of escape towards the west.

"The general picture of the situation is being completed by the action of two columns headed towards Gimma, one marching from the south northward and the other from the north, southward. One of the two columns is commanded by General Geloso, and the military authorities attach great importance to his activities. Having once arrived at Allata, General Geloso with his intrepid troops will be able to reach Gimma by automobile. The fortunate development of operations in progress by the Geloso Column will have a great effect on the whole situation in the western territory around Gore and Gambela and will have decisive weight in the liquidation

tion of the entire Adola-Goba system, that is to say on the situation of Ras Desta and Beiené Merid."

With regard to Ethiopian friends of Italy, the press reports that Ras Sejum arrived by airplane in Asmara from Addis Ababa and that on November 16 he will sail with his family for Italy, where he will visit the principal cities. The Viceroy has decorated the Deggiac Uodagio Ubié of Debra Brehan with the insignia of Commander of the Crown of Italy for his fidelity to the Italian Government.

The following list of "rebel" forces in Ethiopia, comprising about 50,000 men, was published on November 1:

(1) Forces commanded by Fitaaurari Shimelis and other lesser chieftains in the western part of the Harrar plateau (about 6,500 men);

(2) Deggiac Beiene Merid, Ras Desta, and others in upper Bale (5,500 men);

(3) Deggiac Gabre Mariam and others in upper Sidamo (3,000 men);

(4) Ras Imru (reported taken prisoner by the Gallas) and others in Ilu Abba Bor and vicinity (15,000 men);

(5) Deggiac Wondossen Kassa and others in Lasta and vicinity (2,300 men);

(6) Deggiac Averra Kassa and others in northwestern Shoa (8,600 men);

(7) Deggiac Fiore Mariam (recently killed), Fitaaurari Zendie Abbacerra and others in southwestern Shoa (4,000 men);

(8) Deggiac Imnu and others in southern Shoa (5,200 men).

According

According to news despatches from London, published in the Italian press, war has broken out between the Amharics and the Gallas in the western part of Ethiopia not yet occupied by the Italians. It is also reported that Ras Imru, attempting to escape to Uganda, was surrounded by Gallas and is being held prisoner for failing to pay his troops.

Labor

The following official communiqué regarding the number of Italian workers in Italian East Africa, was published in the press on November 6:

"From January 1935-XIV to October 31, 1936-XV, there have been transported through the Commissariat for Migration and Colonization 134,238 workers to Italian East Africa. Taking into account those who have been repatriated upon the termination of their labor contracts, there are at present in the new territory of the Empire 84,824 Italian workers and more than 12,000 soldiers who, demobilized in Ethiopia, have requested and obtained permission to remain and work in the colony."

The press reports that the transportation of 30,000 laborers to Italian East Africa (Embassy's despatch No. 47 of October 22) began on November 2 and will be completed by December 19. In conformity with plans of the Ministry of Colonies, in concert with the General Command of the Militia and the Commissariat for Migration and Colonization, they are being sent in twenty contingents from Genoa, Trieste, and Naples.

Each laborer, who must be not less than twenty-two nor more than forty-seven years of age, is said to have been carefully selected for skill and physical stamina.

stamina. He has been enrolled in a militia squad of twenty-five laborers, headed by a Chief of Squad chosen by the laborers themselves. The squads are grouped by fours into "centuries." The Commissariat for Migration and Colonization is sending a representative with each century to look after the welfare of the laborers during their whole period of service in Italian East Africa. 18,000 laborers will make their headquarters at Massaua and 12,000 at Djibouti, whence they will be sent out to different parts of the "Empire" as needs require.

The Stefani Agency under Harrar dateline of November 2 reports that the Minister of Colonies, during his visit to Harrar, approved a plan for the irrigation and colonization of a property of 300 hectares near Dire Dawa, formerly owned by the Negus. The property will be first cultivated under a cooperative system by farmers belonging to the "Peloritana" Division but will later be divided up into parcels of from three to four hectares and assigned to individual owners.

Economic and Industrial Development.

Little news regarding Italian plans for the economic and industrial development of the conquered territory has been published lately. The Minister for Colonies and the Minister for Public Works, who arrived in Addis Ababa on October 13 (Embassy's despatch No. 47 of October 22, 1936), have been making visits of inspection to the various "governments" of Italian East Africa, where, according to the press, they have been received with great enthusiasm by the native population.

Four architects and an engineer, who have been studying the plans for the reconstruction of Addis Ababa (Embassy's despatch No. 1889 of September 16, 1936), left for the Ethiopian capital by airplane on November 12 to take charge of rebuilding the city.

Rumors that the Italian Government intends to establish a trade monopoly in Ethiopia were denied in the following official communiqué, published in the Italian press on November 6th:

"Rumors are in circulation in certain foreign industrial circles to the effect that the foreign commerce of Italian East Africa will be reserved for certain Italian firms designated by the Chief of the Government. Such rumors are absolutely false."

Finance.

The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a memorandum to this Embassy, dated November 9, 1936, states that the operations for putting the Bank of Ethiopia into liquidation have now been completed but that depositors cannot be reimbursed until funds belonging to the Bank, blocked in the National Bank of Egypt at Cairo and in the London branch thereof, have been released. (Embassy's despatch No. 72 of November 12, 1936).

Justice.

The Governor of Italian Somaliland on November 7 published a proclamation to the native population announcing the promulgation of a general amnesty to political and military prisoners, in honor of a recent visit of the Italian Minister for Colonies.

Public Health.

The Society for the Study of Malaria, in celebration of the foundation of the "Fascist Empire," has decided to establish

establish two prizes for original research work on malaria in Italian East Africa. The prizes will be awarded to Italians who, on December 31, 1938, have made the most valuable studies of malaria. These studies must, however, have been carried on exclusively in the "Empire."

Press

Marquis Fabrizio Catalano Gonzaga is leaving at the end of November to assume the position of Director General of Press and Propaganda in Ethiopia. Gonzaga was, until recently, head of the Fascist Bureau in Paris being on loan there from the Ministry of Press and Propaganda in Rome. He went to Ethiopia at the outbreak of hostilities last fall and stayed for the period of the active military campaign as assistant to the Press Bureau.

Gonzaga stated in a conversation that he was exploring with the authorities here the various possibilities for newspapers in Ethiopia. It was his plan to arrange for the publication of four dailies, one each in Asmara, Mogadisco, Harrar, and Addis Ababa. The dailies in Asmara and Mogadisco will be published in Italian and Arabic; the one in Harrar in Italian, Arabic and Amharic, while the one in Addis Ababa will be published in Italian and Amharic. Foreign and Italian news will be exclusively from the Italian News Agency, Stefani. All papers will be subsidized by the Italian Government. Gonzaga is going down to see what printing equipment will be necessary for the installation of modern presses in each of the four centers. .

In addition to the press activities, Gonzaga's

office

office will handle all questions relating to the Cinema, Radio, and Touring. In other words, the functions of his office will correspond to those of the Ministry of Press and Propaganda in Rome. Radio receiving equipment will be installed in important marketing centers throughout the Empire. Villagers who come to market from outlying districts will receive such news as is good for them through amplifiers on market days.

Catholic Church

Monsignor Castellani, Apostolic Delegate for Italian East Africa, celebrated high mass in the Addis Ababa church on October 26 in the presence of the Viceroy, the Duke of Ancona, and other authorities. Afterward he made a speech in which he said that in entering upon his official functions "in the temple forever reconsecrated by the generous, civilizing work of Italy" he greeted the Prince, the Viceroy, the officers, soldiers, and Black-shirts, and the "people which has seen its greatest historical hour." "I greet all the heroic soldiers belonging to the army that astonished the world, but not Heaven, which was its Ally." Italy was the country appointed by God to promote civilization and the glory of the Church in the world. "It will be the Empire of Rome that will carry the cross of Christ in the world, thanks to the noble work of the marvelous person of the Duce who adds to the audacity of heroes the most moderate and serene balance.We will always pray God to assist and protect him.Italy does not want to be a feared power, but a powerful, lofty, benevolent power. You did not bring death but life here. When I left Italy at the end of the War, I asked the

Holy

Holy Father for his apostolic benediction to bring here to you, sons of Italy. As I received it I bring it to you, in the name of God."

Graziani replied: "Your works have so deeply entered our hearts and so touched them that I ask briefly to interrupt this ceremony to express my sentiments as a soldier on this day when the blessing you have just imparted to the soldiers of the Italian Empire coincides with the occupation of Lekemti by our troops, 400 kilometers toward the west, thus avenging the sacrifice of those heroes who three months ago attempted a mission of peace, which instead became a massacre. Today it is atoned for by an occupation occurring without a single shot, without the shedding of a single drop of blood. This was due above all to the sacrifice and effort of a priest, the Chaplain Father Borello, miraculously spared. Following his work a political situation has matured in that region during the past three months which has permitted us to carry our tricolor to the spot where our fallen brothers had planted it with their holocaust."

The Italian press reports that the Administrative Council of the "Italica Gens," an association for aiding Italian missionaries abroad, has passed a resolution to construct three new hospitals and ten schools in the Galla-Sidamo region. The engineers have already left for Ethiopia and the workmen will be sent shortly. These institutions will be run by missionaries of the Istituto della Consolata.

Foreign Diplomatic Relations.

As reported in my telegram No. 428 of October 24,

an

an Italian official communiqué published on that date announced that Hitler had informed the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs that Germany had proceeded to the formal recognition of the Italian Empire of Ethiopia. On October 26 the former German Minister at Addis Ababa informed the Viceroy of his Government's action, and on October 30 the Italian press announced that the German Bulletin of Laws on the preceding day had published a law dated at Berchtesgaden on October 24 abolishing the Legation and post of German Minister at Addis Ababa and creating a Consulate in that city.

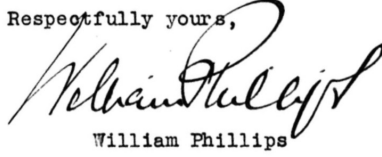
The British Ambassador at Rome on November 6 informed the Italian Foreign Minister that his Government had decided to withdraw the contingent of Indian troops guarding the British Legation at Addis Ababa (Embassy's telegram No. 449 of November 7). In this connection the press published rumors that the British Legation will be shortly replaced by a Consulate General and that conversations on this matter are in progress between London and Paris. The newspapers also stated that the British Government asked the views of the American Government regarding a change in the status of its representation in Addis Ababa, adding that the Secretary of State had publicly declared that the United States would act on its own initiative (Embassy's telegram No. 441 of November 4).

On November 10, the press gave considerable publicity to a Reuter despatch under Belgrade dateline to the effect that the Yugoslav Government will recognize Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia by accrediting its new Minister to the "King Emperor." (Embassy's telegram No. 457 of

November

November 10.)

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'William Phillips', written in dark ink.

William Phillips

GG/gc

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Department of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington,

1936 NOV 23 PM 1 42 November 20, 1936.

2P

VIA NAVAL RADIO

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

AMLEGATION,

ADDIS ABABA (ETHIOPIA).

391
In a recent conversation with the Chief of the Division of Near Eastern Affairs, the Italian Ambassador, referred to, American press, comment on Germany's recognition of Italian sovereignty in Ethiopia and to newspaper opinion that in this matter the Latin-American countries would be guided probably by the views of the American Government.

The Ambassador asked informally whether this Government had an understanding with the Latin-American Governments regarding recognition, and expressed hope of his Government that the various American countries would decide the question independently.

The Chief of the Division of Near Eastern Affairs, remarked that the press did not necessarily reflect this Government's opinion, and stated that he was not aware of any understanding with Latin-American countries on this subject and was sure none existed.

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Enciphered by MBG

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Sent by operator M., 19

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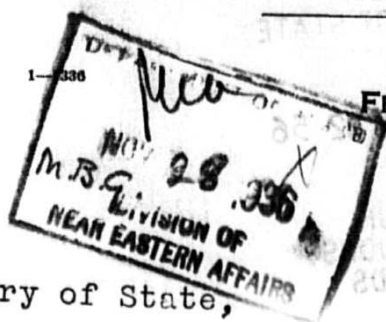
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

Geneva (Part Air)

Dated November 24, 1936.

Rec'd. 7:40 a. m.,

November 26.



FROM

Secretary of State,

Washington.

477, November 24, 11 a. m.



The Secretariat has made public a communication from Emperor Haile Selasse protesting against the recognition by Austria and Hungary of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia and declaring his intention to struggle for restoration of Ethiopian independence and territorial integrity.

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GILBERT

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DEC 1 1936

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Department of State

TO BE TRANSMITTED
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PARTAIR
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Washington,

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Dec 1,
~~November 30,~~ 1936.

Via Naval Radio

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

AMLEGATION,

ADDIS ABABA, (ETHIOPIA). *via NR*

✓ 394
Telegram from the Consul at Geneva, dated November 24, 1936, contains the following information:

QUOTE The Secretariat has made public a communication from Emperor Haile Selasse protesting against the recognition by Austria and Hungary of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia and declaring his intention to struggle for restoration of Ethiopian independence and territorial integrity. END QUOTE

hmm
Acting.

865D.01/208

NE:MBG:FMC:SS

M.B.G.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

OR
1936

1936 DEC 1 AM 11 46

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ M., _____, 19____

865D.01/208

GH

*Paraphrases sent to Peiping (Nanking)
+ Tokyo*

BR
DIVISION OF WESTERN
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
DEC 15 1936
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

Division of
FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS
DEC - 1 1936
Department of State

*WE
FE
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LMS

1-1336

This telegram must be **FROM Rome**
closely paraphrased be-
fore being communicated
to anyone. (B)

Dated November 28, 1936

DEPARTMENT OF STATE Rec'd 1:34 p. m.

Secretary of State,

DEC 1 2 1936

Washington.

DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF WESTERN
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
NOV 30 1936
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

497, November 28, 5 p. m.

My 469, November 18, 5 p. m.

The Italian press bureau this afternoon has orally
informed the press that an accord has been reached be-
tween Italy and Japan giving recognition to Manchukuo
and to Ethiopia. It is expected that a communique will
be issued shortly.

PHILIPS

HPD

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865 U.O.I
843.01 Manchuria*

865 U.O.I / 209

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MAR 22 1937
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(CONFIDENTIAL)

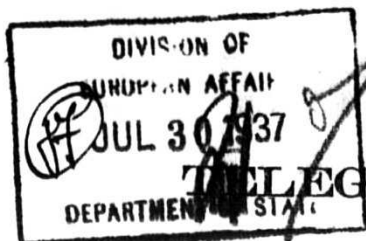
P A R A P H R A S E

A telegram (No. 497) of November 28, 1936, from the American Embassy at Rome reads substantially as follows:

An accord has been reached between Japan and Italy giving recognition to Ethiopia and to "Manchukuo", according to information given orally to the press on November 28 by the Italian press bureau. It is thought that in the near future a communique will be issued.

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TELEGRAM RECEIVED

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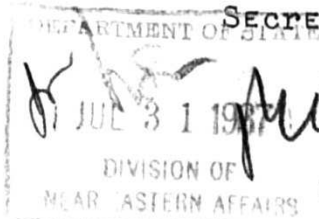
This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (A)

FROM

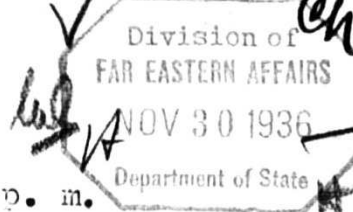
Tokyo

Dated November 30, 1936

Rec'd 7:40 a. m.



Secretary of State,
Washington.



*Ch Paraphrases sent to
Peiping (Nanking)
+ Rome
file*

245, November 30, 2 p. m.

One. No official announcement has yet been made in Tokyo in regard to the subject matter of the Italo-Japanese agreement now being negotiated but the spokesman of the Foreign Office has stated that the negotiations are not connected with the recently concluded German-Japanese anti-Comintern agreement.

Two. From the best information available to the Embassy it appears that the Italo-Japanese agreement will contain trade clauses whereby Japan will obtain raw material concessions in Abyssinia; will provide for the de facto recognition by Japan of the Italian possession of Abyssinia by the reduction of the Japanese Legation there to a consular office and for the Italian de facto recognition of Manchukuo by the accrediting of consular officers to that country; and will provide for Italian technical and material assistance to Japanese aviation (the information in regard to aviation was obtained from an officer of the Italian Embassy and therefore may be considered as authentic).

Three.

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not
765.94
762.94
899.01 Manchuria*

FS 2-No. 245, November 30, 2 p. m. from Tokyo.

Three. I shall see the Italian Ambassador tomorrow and shall telegraph further information if obtained.

KLP

GREW

(CONFIDENTIAL)

P A R A P H R A S E

CONFIDENTIAL

A telegram (No. 245) of November 30, 1936, from the American Embassy at Tokyo reads substantially as follows:

As yet no official announcement has been made in Tokyo concerning the subject matter of the agreement which is being negotiated now between Italy and Japan. However, the Foreign Office spokesman has stated that the negotiations have no connection with the anti-Comintern agreement concluded recently between Japan and Germany.

It appears, according to the best information which the Embassy has been able to obtain, that the agreement between Japan and Italy will provide for material and technical assistance to Japanese aviation (as the information concerning aviation was obtained from an officer of the Italian Embassy, it may be regarded as true); will contain trade clauses by means of which the Japanese will obtain in Abyssinia raw material concessions; and will provide for Italian de facto recognition of "Manchukuo" and Japanese de facto recognition of Italian possession of Abyssinia. This recognition will be accomplished by Italy accrediting consular officers to "Manchukuo" and by the reduction of the Japanese Legation in Abyssinia to a consular office.

The American Ambassador expects to see the Italian Ambassador on December 1 and will telegraph again if he obtains further information.

865D.01/210

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865D.01/210

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2 11

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 762.94/105 FOR Tel. 335 noon

FROM China (Johnson) DATED Nov. 30, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127

REGARDING: Present status of Ethiopia. The Italian Ambassador will call on the Chinese Foreign Minister November 30th to discuss the recent Italo- Japanese Agreement which press reports states relates to recognition of - and Manchuria.

fp

365D.01/211

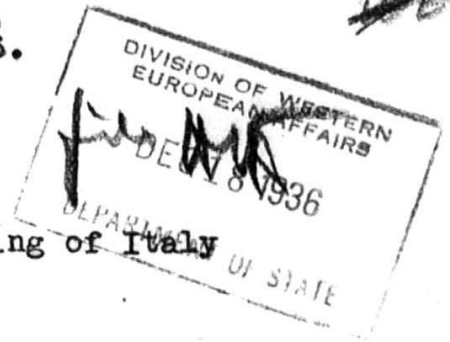


LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

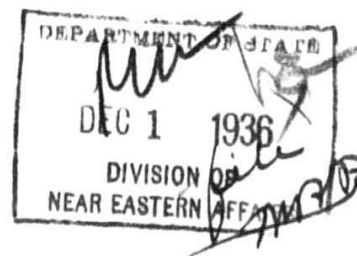
Tirana, Albania,
November 17, 1936.

No. 244

SUBJECT: Albanian Recognition of the King of Italy
as Emperor of Ethiopia.



To the Field
In U. S. A.



The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that, in accordance with local custom, I made a ceremonial call by appointment yesterday on Mr. Koço Kotta, Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs in the new Albanian Government (see the Legation's telegram No. 33 of November 9, 1936). I tendered the usual congratulations and good wishes, and in the course of the conversation I asked him whether he could confirm my information that Albania had recognized the King of Italy's title as Emperor of Ethiopia. Mr. Kotta replied that

Albania

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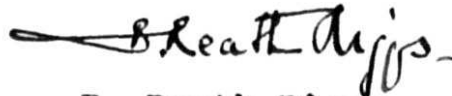
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GMB

Albania had officially recognized King Victor Emmanuel as Emperor of Ethiopia when the new Albanian Minister to Rome recently presented his letters of credence. The letters were made out to include the title of Emperor of Ethiopia.

I should add that Mr. Villa presented his credentials in Rome on November 5, 1936.

Respectfully yours,



B. Reath Riggs,
Chargé d'Affaires a. i.

BRR:jwd
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TELEGRAM RECEIVED

DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

1-1336

FROM Rome

Dated December 2, 1936

FS

A portion of this telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone.

(A)

Rec'd 10 a. m.

DIVISION OF WESTERN
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Secretary of State

Washington.

Division of
FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DEC - 4 1936

Department of State

DEC 2 1936

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

504, December 2, 2 p. m.

(GRAY). My 497, November 28, 5 p. m.

The following official communique has just been issued: "Count Ciano received the Japanese Ambassador who communicated to him the decision of his Government to transform the Legation in Addis Ababa into a Consulate General asking the exequatur therefor of the government of His Majesty the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia.

Count Ciano after having assured him that the Japanese interests in Ethiopia will be the object of particular attention on the part of the Italian authorities expressed to His Excellency Sugimura his pleasure at the decision of the Imperial Government at Tokyo."

It is understood that a communique affecting Italian relations with Manchukuo will be issued in Tokyo and subsequently published here. (END GRAY)

The explanation given in Italian official circles for the delay in issuing this communique is to the

effect

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FS 2-No. 504, December 2, 2 p. m. from Rome

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effect that owing to the world wide reaction to the German-Japanese anti-Communist agreement the Italian Government felt that if the Italo-Japanese undertakings affecting Ethiopia and Manchukuo should be published at the time of the publication of the German-Japanese agreement it might be construed that these two accords were closely connected and consequently erroneous inferences might be drawn as to the intentions of the governments concerned.

WWG

PHILLIPS

PARAPHRASE

A telegram (No. 504) of December 2, 1936, from the American Embassy at Rome reads substantially as follows:

There has just been issued an official communique as follows: "Count Ciano received the Japanese Ambassador who communicated to him the decision of his Government to transform the Legation in Addis Ababa into a Consulate General asking the exequatur therefor of the Government of His Majesty the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia.

"Count Ciano after having assured him that the Japanese interests in Ethiopia will be the object of particular attention on the part of the Italian authorities expressed to his excellency Sugimura his pleasure at the decision of the Imperial Government at Tokyo."

It is understood that a communique affecting ^{Italian} relations with "Manchukuo" will be issued in Tokyo and subsequently published in Rome.

In Italian official circles the delay in issuing the above quoted communique is explained as being due to the fact that, on account of the reaction all over the world to the anti-Communist agreement between Germany and Japan, the Italian Government felt that if at the time of publication of the Japanese-German agreement, the Italo-Japanese undertakings concerning "Manchukuo" and Ethiopia should be made public it might be inferred that there was a close connection between the two arrangements and mistaken inferences in regard to the intentions of the governments concerned might consequently be drawn.

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December 11 1936

No.

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CONFIDENTIAL - STAFF USE ONLY.

To the American Ambassador,
Peiping.

The Acting Secretary of State encloses for the confidential information of the American Ambassador paraphrases of telegrams, as listed below, relating to recent negotiations between Italy and Japan affecting Ethiopia and "Manchukuo".

Copy to Nanking.

Enclosures:

No. 469, November 18, from Rome;
No. 653, November 27, from Addis Ababa;
No. 497, November 28, from Rome;
No. 245, November 30, from Tokyo;
No. 247, December 1, from Tokyo;
No. 504, December 2, from Rome.

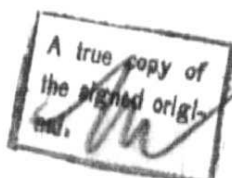
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December 11 1936

No. 1158

CONFIDENTIAL - STAFF USE ONLY.

To the American Ambassador,
Tokyo.

The Acting Secretary of State encloses for the confidential information of the American Ambassador copies and paraphrases of telegrams, as listed below, relating to recent negotiations between Italy and Japan affecting Ethiopia and "Manchukuo".

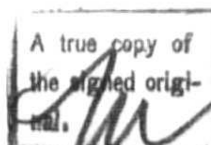
Enclosures:

No. 469, November 18, from Rome;
No. 653, November 27, from Addis Ababa;
No. 497, November 28, from Rome;
No. 337, December 2, from Nanking;
No. 504, December 2, from Rome;
No. 584, December 4, from Peiping.

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Central File: Decimal File 865D.01, Internal Affairs Of States, Italian East Africa, Government. Mandates, Recognition., Apr. 29, 1936. 29 Apr. 1936. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com/apps/doc/FSC5109727972/FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC. Accessed 18 June 2025.